FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ALFONSIN DISCUSSES RESULTS OF EUROPEAN TRIP

PY231710 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 Sep 85 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin denied that there was any immediate prospect for a formal ceasefire with Britain on his return from his ten-day European swing yesterday morning. He also called foreign investment the key to economic recovery and said the most important task confronting Argentines was to make living in democracy a matter of routine, fostering virtues such as tolerance and solidarity.

Alfonsin told reporters at Ezeiza airport that a formal ceasefire could only follow a British undertaking to discuss all aspects of the Malvinas Islands issue, including sovereignty. Senator Luis Leon (Radical-Chaco) yesterday hailed Alfonsin's meeting with British Labour leader Neil Kinnock last Wednesday, saying it had helped to divide a hitherto solid British front on the issue.

The President also praised the degree of understanding he had encountered in Europe, describing the results of the tour as "positive." The French people, in particular, considered that Argentina democracy had been "consolidated" with major improvements in the human rights area, he insisted.

Alfonsin further said that "having halted inflation was one very concrete result of the Austral Plan which every housewife could appreciate." He stressed Argentina's "total and absolute" solidarity with earthquake-stricken Mexico, and avoided any direct confirmation of a visit here by French President Francois Mitterrand next year.

In connection with the former, Alfonsin last night sent a message of sympathy to his Mexican counterpart Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado, pledging solidarity and expressing confidence that Mexico would recover from this latest blow "as it has done throughout its brilliant history." The message concluded by saying: "The Argentine Government and people are at your disposal."

Alfonsin also gave a press conference on the homeward-bound flight, underlining the importance of modernizing Argentina. He repeated earlier statements that those who failed to appreciate that Argentina was changing risked missing the "train of history." At the end of the press conference he summed up his tour with the words: "Mission accomplished."

In a brief ceremony the President, who returned at 9:40 a.m., resumed the active control of government which he had delegated to Vice-President Victor Martinez at the start of his tour. Alfonsin was met by presidential secretary German Lopez, senior officers, and most of the six ministers who had remained behind.

Alfonsin, who will be visiting Spain November 5-6, said he would pursue the same business-oriented objectives as those of his European swing when he tours Japan in November.

Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille, who returned yesterday with Alfonsin, was also bullish about the results of the tour, especially a West German business report of 600 million dollars more investment from that country in Argentina next year. He also said Yugoslavia and Argentina had much in common and that the foreign debt issue was the least of Argentina's worries at the moment since it had been settled until the end of the year. Sourrouille claimed the Austral Plan had been received with equal enthusiasm in France and West Germany, although he admitted the Europeans were not entirely convinced by the use of price controls to fight inflation. Finally, the minister gave a firm "No" to questions about wage hikes.

LA PRENSA Report

PY232337 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Sep 85 p 1, 5

[Excerpts] Alfonsin said yesterday that Argentina must obtain foreign investments in order to recover economically. He stressed that if these investments are forthcoming, thanks to the anti-inflationary plan, "the positive results will quickly be visible -- in the short term, not the long term."

The president also stated that he does not think a suspension of hostilities between Great Britain and Argentina is near.

He made these statements on board the airplane which brought him back from his European tour, about an hour and a half before he landed at 0945 yesterday after a 10-day stay in Europe, where he visited Yugoslavia, the FRG and France.

In reference to the Malvinas, Alfonsin said that after his meeting with the UK Labour Party leader, "there are several steps that may be taken, and several steps that must be taken." He indicated that first, we must observe what is happening and then we must make a decision. Asked about the possibility of hostilities being suspended soon, he said: "I do not think it will be soon; we have offered to declare a suspension of hostilities in order to start negotiations, but there has been no answer. If they want to sit down and discuss problems, we are ready to declare the suspension of hostilities."

FOREIGN MINISTER SPEAKS AT UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PY240246 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2007 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Sep (NA) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has stated that President Raul Alfonsin's recent meeting with British Labour leader Neil Kinnock in Paris proves that "our conflict (over the Malvinas) is not with a country but with a government," clearly alluding to Margaret Thatcher's unwillingness to "resume negotiations aimed at resolving the dispute over sovereignty" of the archipelago.

Caputo also warned that "a lasting stabilization" of the process of democratization in Latin America is tied to the possibility of obtaining funds for development, most of which he stressed, "are spent on paying interest on the foreign debt."

In the 26-page speech he made this afternoon at the UN General Assembly in New York, Caputo also criticized "the historical shortsightedness" of developed countries that maintain protectionist barriers, curtail the flow of capital for the development of the Third World, and foster the decline of the terms of trade. "We reiterate that we do not want charity (from developed countries) but concrete willingness to look for mutually beneficial solutions capable of putting an end to worldwide recession," Caputo said.

Reviewing the UN's accomplishments over its 40 years of existence, the Argentine foreign minister stressed that "adherence to a system of ethics free from strategic considerations must be the basis for a concerted political action" in order to fulfill the slogan: "United Nations for a better world."

Caputo said that "Argentina wants to reiterate its strongest repudiation of the apartheid system and its unwavering support for the Namibian people's right to self-determination," adding that it is necessary for the Security Council to implement "urgent and effective measures to increase the pressure" on the Pretoria regime.

Speaking about the Central American conflict, Caputo indicated that "inflexible positions merely undermine the possibilities of arriving at an agreement fair and honorable to all the parties involved, and they actually foster military options."

At the beginning of his speech, Caputo expressed his desire that "the difficult and sad situation (in Mexico) be swiftly overcome," adding that "everything would be more difficult today if this organization (the UN) did not exist" on the international scene.

Caputo hailed the role that the United Nations has played in the process of decolonization, adding that developing countries "must also struggle against new types of colonialism stemming from the enormous gap between technologically advanced nations and developing countries." He said: "This new kind of dependency, which has been getting worse every day in keeping with the widening technological gap, is extremely serious."

The Argentine foreign minister pointed out that the intervention of international organizations like the United Nations "helped to alleviate the plight of many people persecuted for political reasons and saved many others from doom" during the latest Argentine military regime.

Caputo went on to criticize the arms race and said that "in order to keep its domestic actions in line with what it preaches abroad, Argentina has substantially reduced its military expenditures in general, and in particular it has reaffirmed its repeatedly proclaimed intentions of using nuclear technology for peaceful uses only."

Speaking about the role of the Nonaligned Movement founded in Belgrade in 1961, Caputo said that "as long as the founding principles are respected and abided by, they make this movement an important moderating force of the positions of the two military alliances."

Caputo added that Argentina supports the efforts of the Contadora Group in Central America to achieve peace because these efforts "epitomize Latin America's political will and ability to reach agreements to find, through an independent approach, a negotiated and lasting solution to the conflict."

The Argentine foreign minister denounced "once again the illegitimate occupation of a portion of Argentine territory by the United Kingdom," adding that despite our country's exhortations, London "continues to refuse to engage in serious and overall negotiations, thus seeking to consolidate an anachronistic colonial situation."

He emphasized that the inflexibility of the British Government, "is worsened by the disproportionate British military presence in the South Atlantic. This militarization jeopardizes not only Argentina but also the entire region, as was recently established by the OAS Permanent Council." Caputo indicated that "the building of a strategic airport in the islands and the extraordinary naval power stationed there threatens the stability of an area which is part of the denuclearized Latin American zone."

In the four pages of his speech allocated to the Malvinas issue, Caputo recalled Argentina's calls for a resumption of talks, which have been suspended since the war for the Malvinas in 1983, and said that "to ignore the sovereignty issue in any future negotiations would amount to basing the reestablishment of relations on fiction." Caputo quoted from the joint communique which Raul Alfonsin and Neil Kinnock signed in Paris last week, and stressed that the issue "requires a swift and lasting solution, which calls for a meaningful gesture capable of showing that the United Kingdom truly wants to terminate the litigation."

DISASTER AID PLANE DEPARTS FOR MEXICO

PY202258 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1730 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Sep (TELAM) -- An Argentine Air Force airplane left Ezeiza International Airport at 1400 with a group of doctors and nurses who will assist the victims of the earthquake that hit the Mexican nation. The airplane, which had left Palomar Air Base at 1230, carries on board 100 tents, 3,500 blankets, 200 rolls of special polyethylene, and 1 ton of medicines, among other things, meant to alleviate the dreadful disaster the sister nation has suffered.

CGT WARNS OF STRIKE, PUTS WORKERS ON ALERT

PY202222 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 20 Sep 85 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- The CGT yesterday warned it would turn to new strikes and protests unless the government gives in to its demand for wage increases and industrial recovery. Regional CGT secretaries and delegates also unanimously backed a directive council proposal to have Saul Ubaldini named sole confederation leader. Until yesterday Ubaldini had shared CGT power with Jorge Triaca, Ramon Baldassini and Osvaldo Borda. The CGT placed workers on a "state of alert" and warned that "strikes and protests" would follow unless its demands are met. Delegates authorized the CGT directive council to set strike dates independently.

The delegates at the plenary meeting also agreed to seek immediate talks with Labour Minister Hugo Barrionuevo to demand that government-intervened unions be returned to unionists. The CGT moreover expressed its disapproval of a Supreme Court ruling on Wednesday which ordered the intervention of the paper workers' federation.

Two of the outgoing secretaries-general, Triaca and Baldassini, did not attend the meeting yesterday. Baldassini was reported to be in Europe but Triaca did not offer a reason for his absence. A CGT source said the outgoing secretaries-general would not be given the posts of assistant secretaries, but rather be reassigned within the confederation.

In a statement released after the meeting the CGT renewed its demand for a moratorium on foreign debt payments and charged that the government, backed by "certain financial powers," was trying to provoke the labour movement.

Just a few blocks away from the CGT headquarters, power workers staged a four-hour strike to demand pay hikes. Marching through city streets to the labour ministry, 5,000 of the workers also attacked government plans to subcontract energy work to private companies. Union secretary-general Oscar Lescano claimed 20 months of Radical government had only worsened the condition of the Greater Buenos Aires Power Company (SEGBA). "In 20 months three boards were reshuffled, 63 new executive offices created and 232 advisers were hired," he charged.

Defense industry workers meanwhile called off a strike planned for today after the defence ministry agreed to extend the contracts of many workers and to talk about wage demands.

PRESIDENT DECIDES NOT TO ATTEND UN ASSEMBLY

PY231915 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Excerpt] President Victor Paz Estenssoro has decided not to travel to New York, where he was supposed to attend the 40th UN General Assembly session. This information has been announced by Foreign Minister Gaston Araoz Levy, who said that the president made this decision a few days ago because of the prevailing situation in the country.

In addition to attending the UN General Assembly, the chief of state was supposed to attend a mini-summit of presidents of Latin American countries that have returned to the democratic system, according to press reports datelined New York.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON CARTAGENA MEETING

PY211526 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1402 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] La Paz, 21 Sep (EFE) -- Foreign Minister Gaston Araoz Levy has asserted that the Andean countries believe that the Bolivian demand to obtain an outlet to the Pacific Ocean is a fair one. Foreign Minister Araoz, who has just participated in a meeting in Cartagena de Indias with his Colombian, Ecuadoran, Peruvian, and Venezuelan counterparts, said during a press conference that the Andean foreign ministers recognize that Bolivia suffers from a landlocked situation which affects its development, and share the Bolivian concern over this situation.

He asserted that the meeting in Cartagena de Indias decided to promote integration activities among the Andean countries. The ministers agreed that an emergency program should undertake the immediate restoration of the national trade channels and promote actions of cooperation and coordination among the member countries.

Gaston Araoz stated that it was decided at the meeting to give preferential support to Bolivia because of its geographical situation and its lesser degree of development.

COB RELEASES COMMUNIQUE; STRIKE TO CONTINUE

PY231436 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 Sep 85

["Text" of communique released by the Bolivian Labor Confederation [COB] in La Paz 19 September]

[Text] The COB National Strike Committee informs the public of the following:

Approximately 500 fellow workers, including members of COB and union organizations, have been banished to unhealthy places in the eastern region of the country. The police continue to occupy and control union headquarters and union-owned radio stations, and we consider this to be an open provocation that violates freedom of the press.

The workers of the mining districts have decided to intensify the hunger strike they are carrying out in the mines until all their jailed and banished fellow workers are released. They have also stated that they will reject any type of provocation ordered by the government. The striking workers and housewives in La Paz have again grouped in religious centers to continue the struggle until full freedom is obtained again.

The provocation and repression of the Bolivian Army and police continues to be resisted in several towns throughout Bolivia. The COB national strike committee reiterates to all union organizations that the measures approved by our national congress on 9 September must be radicalized in accordance with the COB platform for struggle.

La Paz, 19 September 1985

DEFENSE MINISTRY REPORTS 25 DEAD IN M-19 CLASHES

PA222238 Bogota Television Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] The Defense Ministry reported today that 6 soldiers and 19 guerrilla members have died during the latest clashes which took place between 3d Brigade troops and the M-19 [19 April Movement]. The four most recent clashes took place between 16 and 19 September. The official report states that 25 persons have died in combat as a result of those clashes.

M-19 Denies Leader's Death

PA202047 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 18 Sep 85 p 1

[Text] The 19 April Movement (M-19) has reported that Rosemberg Pabon Pabon, alias "Commander Uno," has not died and that he is carrying out organization tasks somewhere in Colombia. Carlos Pizarro Leongomez, one of the five top leaders of the M-19, disclosed to the national news agency COLPRENSA [Agencia Colombiana de Prensa] that Pabon Pabon is alive and that reports circulating about his death "are the work of the enemy."

ARMY, POLICE CAPTURE TWO FARC COMMANDERS

PA220313 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 18 Sep 85 p 1

[Text] Four guerrillas, including two "commanders" of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] were captured in the past few hours by National Police and Army troops.

Official spokesmen for the law enforcement forces stated that Juan de la Cruz Henao Velasquez alias "Guillermo", and Mario Antonio Rodas Herrera alias "Pedro," leaders of the 22d FARC Front, were turned over to the disposition of Cecilia Carvajal Gomez, Bucaramanga criminal arraignment judge.

Henao Velasquez and Rodas Herrera are charged with participating in the kidnapping of four ranchers, cattlemen, and industrialists. Reliable sources did not disclose the circumstances surrounding the capture of the subversive leaders.

Meanwhile, the National Police General Headquarters announced the capture of Jesus Bayon Asprila, alleged FARC member, in Tulua Municipality, Valle del Cauca. At the time of his capture Asprilla was carrying a carbine, ammunition, subversive propaganda, and calendars with photographs of Manuel Marulanda Velez and Jacobo Arenas.

CIVIL COURTS TO ASSUME JURISDICTION IN DRUG CASES

PA202129 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 18 Sep 85 pp 1, 2

[By Eudardo Carrillo]

[Text] Courts will once again handle crimes related to drug traffic. These crimes have been the purview of military penal courts ever since the government declared that the public order was disrupted by Minister Rodrigo Lara Bonilla's assassination.

In fact, President Belisario Betancur and Justice Minister Enrique Parejo Gonzalez have signed Decree No 2595 authorizing the appointment of 25 special criminal arraignment judges in accordance with the investigation requirements contemplated in Article 70 of Law No 2 of 1984.

The National Council for Criminal Arraignment [Consejo Nacional de Instruccion Criminal] will be in charge of assigning the new judges.

The judges referred to in the decree are attached to the respective criminal arraignment circuits [seccionales] for the purposes of the provisions mentioned in Decrees 2267 of 1969, 533 of 1971, and those complementing or amending them.

From now on the special criminal arraignment judges will hear all matters related to drug trafficking in Colombia and, for this purpose, President Betancur will issue another decree to amend Decree No 1290, which was issued on 1 May 1984 and granted jurisdiction to the military courts to hear all matters connected with the crimes contemplated by Decree No 1188.

A source close to the Justice Ministry disclosed that the appointment of the new, special judges stems solely and exclusively from the excellent results of investigations conducted by the judges who investigate and rule on the crimes of kidnapping, extortion, blackmail [boleteo], and terrorism.

Recently, National Defense Minister General Miguel Francisco Vega Uribe disclosed that because of the limited number of military criminal arraigning judges there was a backlog of over 3,000 drug trafficking cases and, therefore, it was necessary to create an additional 13 slots to impart prompt and due justice.

The government did not authorize the appointment of 13 military judges but ordered judicial officials to appoint the 20 new special criminal arraigning judges to hear all matters related to drug traffic. The military criminal courts will continue hearing the cases which are now in the hands of military judges and will hold courts martial as required, it was reported.

PEACE COMMISSION PRESIDENT TENDERS RESIGNATION

PA222006 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2112 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Bogota, 21 Sep (EFE) -- John Agudelo Rios, president of the Colombian Peace Commission, tendered his resignation in a letter delivered personally to President Belisario Betancur.

Agudelo Rios, former labor and social security minister, has been chairing the organization which mediates between the government and the rebels since 1983, after the resignation of the then Minister, Otto Morales Benitez, who had replaced Carlos Lleras Restrepo as [commission] president.

Although Agudelo did not give the reason for his resignation, which will be made known when the content of his letter to President Betancur is revealed, he said he considered he had fulfilled his mission and said that the peace process is entering a new phase.

The resignation of the president of the Peace Commission will prompt the resignation en masse of the commission members, which include political, university, church, business, and labor representatives.

COLORADO LEADERS ON DISREGARD FOR MAJORITY RULE

PY210135 Asuncion Cerro Cora Sistema Nacional Television in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Interview with presidents of Colorado Party chapters, who met at the residence of Lorenzo J. Romero, mayor of Fernando de la Mora, to express support for him in view of party Executive Board decision not to recognize his candidacy for reelection, 19 September -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Now the interview with party chapter presidents, who have expressed support for Lorenzo J. Romero of Fernando de la Mora.

[Unidentified reporter] The presidents of party chapters are presumably persecuted. I will ask the same question I asked Mr Paredes: Who is persecuting you?

[Unidentified party chapter president] As President Paredes of Chapter 2 has said, we, the presidents of the Colorado Party chapters of Asuncion, have come to express our support for this man who is working for the people. We sustain the thesis of our sole leader, President Stroessner, that the majority rules in a democracy. In this case, our colleague, Lorenzo J. Romero, has all the evidence that, as president of the Fernando de la Mora chapter, he holds the majority and the decision of the majority must prevail. We object to the fact that in this case the majority has been overruled. This is why we are gathered at the residence of this great party leader, Lorenzo J. Romero.

[Reporter] What is happening within the Colorado Party?

[Antonio Ibanez, president of party branch No 4] The public knows very well what is happening within the Colorado Party. This is really a deplorable situation. As grassroots leaders, we are suffering from what is happening daily. If someone has said that there is persecution, I would add that there is also segregation within the party. Those who at the last party convention nominated Mario Abdo Benitez as one of the party vice presidents did so because they believe the party must be run by those who are involved in the party's daily activities, in daily contact with the Colorado people, giving them the help they need. We are not against anyone in particular, but it seems that the interpretation of the party leaders has reached the point of discriminating against those who made that proposal at the party's last convention.

[Reporter] Mr Ramon Aquino, president of party chapter No 14, your colleagues are saying that there is persecution and segregation within the party. Do you agree?

[Ramon Aquino] I agree that there is segregation and persecution within the party ranks.

[Reporter] Who is doing the persecuting and segregating?

[Ramon Aquino] The highest authorities of our party.

[Reporter] The labels militants and traditionalists are being attached to the two sides.

[Ramon Aquino] There is a lot of talk about this. There is no respect for the grassroots authorities of our party. Obviously, we will convene a party convention.

[Reporter] Can you call for an extraordinary convention?

[Ramon Aquino] We are studying what can be done, because above all we must respect the president of the Republic. We are Stroessnerists at heart and we will fight to defend him. There is a conspiracy against President Stroessner, because many things are being done in disregard of majority rule.

[Reporter] Do you mean that the party leaders are conspiring?

[Ramon Aquino] Yes, there is a great conspiracy afoot against President Stroessner, against the Colorado government of President Stroessner. There is no doubt about this, none at all. We will verify this at any time.

[Reporter] Are the presidents of party chapters militants?

[Ramon Aquino] I would say that I am a Colorado and a Stroessnerist, respectful of all party obligations. And I can tell you that we are Coloradoa and Stroessnerists who will fight and die for President Stroessner. [applause]

[Reporter] Mr Pastor Almada, what is happening within the Colorado Party?

[Pastor Almada, president of party chapter No. 23] I do not think anything is happening within the party. Rather, it is on the Government Board that a disaster is taking place. Proof of this is what is happening here in Fernando de la Mora and the fact that presidents of party chapters, who are responsible for this process, applaud what we do not like in the convention. I repeat, there are people who do not deserve to sit on the Government Board. I agree with what my colleagues have expressed: The Government Board is not only involved in a conspiracy but it is also moved by a desire for revenge. This is a conspiracy being plotted by some members of the party Government Board.

[Reporter] Can you give names?

[Pastor Almada] I believe that at this time we do not need to reveal them because first we have to know who is hiding behind a mask and paying to have things their way, as we are trying to find out here in Fernando de la Mora.

OBSERVERS SAY COLORADO PARTY SPLIT GROWING

PY240006 Paris AFP in Spanish 0212 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Asuncion, 22 Sep (AFP) -- Diplomatic sources and opposition politicians reported today, Sunday, that the split in the ruling Colorado Party is deepening and might lead to polarization in an effort to gain power. They made this statement when commenting on the sanctions the party Executive Board might impose on the militant sector of the Colorado Party. The sanctions could be imposed as a consequence of caustic remarks by the militants against Juan Ramon Chaves, president of the Executive Board, and because a meeting has been scheduled for 25 September in Asuncion's Caballero Park.

High-ranking Colorado officials revealed today that the rank-and-file leaders, who reported -- without giving specific names -- an alleged conspiracy in the Executive Board against President Stroessner would be severely punished and that the meeting called by the militants would be forbidden. Colorado precinct presidents who sympathize with the militants have announced that they will meet tomorrow to try to gather 100,000 people for the meeting. A traditional sector spokesman consulted by AFP said today that it is highly improbable that the opposition faction could gather so many people on such short notice. He stressed that the militants are in the minority.

BROAD FRONT LEADER SEREGNI INTERVIEWED

PM201534 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 17 Sep 85 p 6

[Interview with Broad Front Chairman Liber Seregni by Ana Camacho in Madrid -- date not given]

[Excerpts] Madrid -- Question: Has peace been consolidated in Uruguay?

Answer: Uruguay is experiencing a difficult time, marked by the most serious economic crisis in its entire history, characterized by the burden of foreign debt impossible to repay; a huge decrease in the purchasing power of wages -- about 46 percent lower than in 1968; a paralysis of industry, which in some sectors has reached 90 percent of its capacity; and 15 percent unemployment.

All the parties and social forces that took part in the transition from dictatorship to democracy knew that these problems had to take priority in order to establish the civilian system. Although we are working at it with a will, we still have not managed to find the solutions to this distressing situation, which has created a climate of unrest and volatility, though not confrontation.

Question: What is the nature of the relations between the Broad Front and President Julio Maria Sanguinetti's government?

Answer: Our relations with the government are very good as far as foreign policy stances are concerned, good with regard to political leadership (in parliament and relations between the parties), and rather unsatisfactory with regard to economic policy. For the present we prefer not to describe ourselves as the opposition because we are convinced that it is necessary to extricate ourselves from these straits by means of emergency plans drawn up by consensus. The solution lies in the development of an honest and open dialogue among all the political forces.

Question: What are your disgreements with the economic policy pursued by the present government?

Answer: The basic difference is that we believe that the motive force behind the reactivation of the economy must be based on increasing both external and internal demand by increasing purchasing power and real incomes. The government, on the other hand, believes that it should be done by giving priority to exports, and refuses to increase incomes because it believes that this constitutes a source of inflation. We believe that under present circumstances the market cannot be the factor governing our country's economic life, and we demand in its place strong action by the government.

Question: Do you not believe that the pressure currently being exerted by the trade unions on the government could jeopardize democratic stability?

Answer: I do not believe that the succession of strikes being staged at the moment is threatening the country's stability. As in all societies which pass from a dictatorial regime to a restoration of trade union freedoms and of the freedom to strike, in Uruguay there has been an overreaction in this direction. One must add to this the inexperience of the present trade union cadres, who had to be reestablished after 12 years of inactivity. But the basic fact is that people are going hungry in Uruguay today, and what must be done is to try to correct the causes of the protests, not to despair about their effects.

Question: Will the officers responsible for human rights violations and economic crimes under the dictatorship be tried and punished in Uruguay?

Answer: Investigations have been carried out by the civil judiciary both in connection with economic crimes and in connection with human rights violations, and proceedings have been initiated. As for the military's attitude on this matter, it is not a matter of whether it accepts it, but a matter of the state's ensuring that justice is done. And the state must be able to act in this direction because otherwise there would be no democracy.

Question: Could the differences between the component groups of the Broad Front jeopardize its cohesion?

Answer: The Broad Front is an unusual phenomenon inasmuch as it includes such different forces as the Christian Democrats, all kinds of Marxist groups, and movements with liberal philosophical leanings. But its main strength lies in its ability to challenge. Its debates are heated but when a decision is reached it is universally observed. The Broad Front has withstood the test of the dictatorship and after only 3 months' activity behind it -- compared to the other parties' 2 years -- it is the only group to have managed to grow in real percentage terms.

Above all, the Broad Front has become the most serious immediate government alternative.

GOVERNMENT PROPOSES ECONOMIC PROGRAMS TO IMF

PY210317 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 12 Sep 85 p 6

[Text] In the memorandum of understanding on economic policy, also known as the letter of intent, submitted to the IMF, the Uruguayan Government has proposed a fiscal and monetary adjustment program for the June 1985-December 1986 period to streamline the current economic situation and lay the foundation for a lasting economic recovery. The text of the 16-page document, which is divided into 20 articles and contains several graphs, was disclosed last night by the presidency of the Republic's Information Secretariat (SIPRE).

The document was submitted to the IMF on 28 August 1985 by the economy and finance minister and by the Central Bank president. It is subject to additional measures that might become appropriate according to IMF policy.

According to the document, the government will implement measures to reduce the annual inflation rate to 60 percent at maximum by June 1986 and to less than 45 percent for the entire year 1986.

TEXT The document states that the Central Bank's international net reserves will be maintained at their current level, taking into account the periodic variations experienced by the flow of foreign currency. At the same time, measures to obtain a 2 to 4 percent annual growth of the GDP during the term of the program will be implemented. The main objective is to reduce the overall deficit of the nonfinancial public sector and of the Central Bank from 10.25 percent of the GDP during the previous fiscal year to a maximum of 6 percent during 1985 and to less than 5 percent in 1986.

The memorandum explains that efforts will be made for the Central Bank to speed up collection of loans granted to the private sector. The government agrees to implement an export prefinancing program with the purpose of granting a financial incentive to exporters.

The document states the firm intention of maintaining the central government's overall expenditures at approximately 18.75 percent of the GDP during the term of the program, which is a level similar to that maintained during the fiscal year that ended in June 1985.

Regarding salaries, the document submitted to the IMF states that one of the important points concerns the need to adopt a prudent policy and to reduce the automatic adjustments on certain allowances of the social security system. The document proposes to restrict the executive branch's intervention in salary readjustments in the private sector to the issuance of salary guidelines. Nevertheless, in some cases representatives of the Labor and Social Security ministries will mediate between the parties that make up the salary councils, but always within the aforementioned framework.

According to the document, the Uruguayan authorities intend to reduce transfer to the mortgage bank and to public enterprises by approximately 0.75 percent of the GDP for the fiscal year that ends in June 1986. Regarding tax collection, it is hoped that revenues will increase by at least 16.5 percent of GDP during the first 12 months of the program and to higher levels in following years. The increase of the value added tax and of the tax on fuels should increase income by 1 percent of the GDP. The document announces the rationalization of the structure of the capital assets tax, the application of this tax on certain financial assets, an overall increase of the gap existing on taxes on corporate enterprises [as published], a tax on profits sent abroad, and the reduction of deadlines for the collection of taxes on tobacco.

CONGRESS RESOLUTION DENOUNCES CHILEAN REGIME

PY131306 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 12 Sep 85

[Text] The Uruguayan Congress has unanimously condemned the military regime that was installed in Chile on 11 September 1973. On the occasion of the 12th anniversary of the ousting of the Chilean Government, the Chamber of Deputies declared that:

1. It rejects the military regime which took power in Chile by force and which is characterized by the constant violation of human rights and of the hopes of that fraternal people for a democratic system.

2. It pays homage to all those killed in the defense of the Constitution.

3. It extends its solidarity with the Chilean people, particularly with the political forces struggling for public freedom.

The Senate declared that 12 years ago constitutional order was disrupted in Chile, and it expressed its solidarity with the Chilean people and their opposition to Pinochet's dictatorship.

LAST LINE

PERU'S GARCIA, DE LA MADRID ON ECONOMIC RELATIONS

PA231217 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0139 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Sep (EFE) -- Peruvian President Alan Garcia said here today to his counterpart Miguel de la Madrid: We are willing to help in whatever way Mexico wishes in order to remedy the damages caused by the two seismic movements that devastated this capital's central area on Thursday and Friday.

The Peruvian president said this in official Mexican circles shortly before departing for New York after a brief stop in Mexico to express the Peruvian people's solidarity with this country's current grief. In statements broadcast on Television's Channel 7, Garcia said that the tragedy has hurt the Peruvian people as much as if they had felt it in their own flesh.

During his meeting with De la Madrid, the Peruvian president reviewed the current state of bilateral and multilateral economic relations and said that the two nations' foreign ministers will be instructed to initiate the meetings of the Mexico-Peru Commission in order to sign a well-balanced commercial agreement.

According to the Peruvian president, during the meeting held in the presidential palace of Los Pinos, concern was also expressed over the need to defend the prices of raw materials such as silver. Both Mexico and Peru are important producers of this metal.

Finally, Garcia reiterated the need to call a meeting of Latin American leaders in order to reach specific agreements that can be implemented, rather than merely issue declarations or symbolic statements, as has been the case in the past. Garcia will arrive in New York today where next week he will address the United Nations on the occasion of that organization's 40th anniversary.

AGREEMENTS WITH IMF, BANKS TO BE ESTABLISHED

FL240320 Mexico City Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Normalcy and tranquillity are slowly returning to Mexico City [words indistinct] Mexican President De La Madrid told Finance Secretary Jesus Silva Herzog so that he can establish contact with international financial organizations such as the IMF, World Bank, and the Inter-American Development Bank which have offered help to Mexico due to the earthquakes. The announcement was released this afternoon by the Finance and Public Credit Secretariat who indicated the details of the agreements between the financial institutions and Mexico would be released.

EARTHQUAKE ESTIMATED TO LEAVE 25,000 HOMELESS

PA232215 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Report by Jose Cardenas]

[Text] Today is Sunday, 22 September 1985. It has been 75 hours since the earthquake that left downtown Mexico City practically in ruins was first felt. Rescue operations continue and survivors are still being found beneath the rubble of the damaged buildings. A total of 760 buildings in Mexico City have been damaged by the earthquake that occurred Thursday morning. Of that total, 411 buildings crumbled completely.

From here, I can see the remains of what was the Nuevo Leon Building of the Santiago Tlatelolco Housing Complex. Traffic in that area has been restricted to official vehicles only. We have been told that telephone and telegraph services are being offered free of charge to anyone requesting it.

The official toll as of Sunday morning is 1,641 people dead, 2,000 reported missing, 6,000 injured, and it is estimated that 25,000 have been left homeless.

The Miguel Aleman viaduct shows seven cracks and there is the threat that the La Piedad River might overflow. Measures are being taken to counter this threat. If it were to rain, this would complicate matters even further.

VIOLENCE REPORTED IN SONORA DURING CEREMONY

PA190515 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 17 Sep 85

[Text] Supporters of the National Action Party [PAN] set fire to patrol cars and to the municipal palace in Agua Prieta, Sonora. The actions were carried out during the ceremony to change municipal authorities. Everardo Yanez, member of the PAN, had to transfer his authority to Bernardino Ibarola, member of the PRI.

The police arrested 10 persons involved in the actions, 4 of whom were minors. It was later learned that they had traveled from Ciudad Obregon, Chihuahua, to Agua Prieta.

Given the wave of riots, the new community representative of Agua Prieta was sworn in at an improvised office, while the outgoing mayor said he had not participated in the events and added that the PAN was not involved in the actions.

Firemen were unable to stop the fire from spreading because the demonstrators prevented them from reaching it. It was also reported that the new municipal representative's house was attacked.

The police have identified PAN regional delegate Norberto Coellar and former municipal candidate Carlos Munguia as being involved in the actions. It was unofficially revealed that 13 patrol cars were destroyed and that the municipal palace sustained considerable damage.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S NEWS CONFERENCE ON SPADAFORA CASE

PA220122 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] During a news conference, Panamanian Attorney General Manuel Jose Calvo said that the key witness in the case of Dr Hugo Spadafora's death expanded on details during his statements this morning at the Attorney General's Office, and that these statements would be investigated today during an in situ investigation. The attorney general said that German citizen Manfred Hoffman is not under arrest because he came to the Panamanian authorities of his own accord to offer statements as a witness. The attorney general said:

[Begin recording] [Calvo] According to him, it is an FMLN dissident guerrilla cell.

[Question] How can you tell that this person is telling the truth when making statements for the Panamanian Government?

[Calvo] That is precisely our job right now. We are questioning him to find out how he received his information, and later we will take him to the place where he alleges the incident occurred to see what he really knows about this. There are many details regarding places, areas, cars, etc., but this does not necessarily prove that it is the truth.

[Question] How do you explain the fact that it was the National Defense Force that was presenting the report to the attorney general rather than the attorney general presenting the report to the National Defense Force?

[Calvo] Because he voluntarily went to the Panamanian military attache in Costa Rica and expressed his wish to cooperate with the Panamanian authorities. At the same time he demanded protection. He said that he was not safe in Costa Rica.

[Question] Attorney General, this morning Mr Arosemena [not further identified] of Petroterminales said that Mr Hoffman was fired because of his facile imagination. What does your office have to say about this?

[Calvo] All this is subject to investigation. This is precisely the objective of the investigation. We cannot just accept the word of a person because he comes to us and says that such and such a thing happened in such and such a way. The investigation is aimed at proving statements made by witnesses.

[Question] Is it not highly irregular to present a witness, who could be described as highly confidential, before the television cameras and then interrogate him at the Attorney General's Office?

[Calvo] No. The interrogation we are carrying out is much more in depth than the statements he could have made before the television cameras yesterday.

[Question] When do you leave for Costa Rica? Will the witness accompany you?

[Calvo] In a few minutes. He will not be going to Costa Rica. He is going to Chiriqui to reconstruct the facts.

[Question] How would you describe security around the witness?

[Calvo] Good. He is under the protection of DENI [National Department of Investigations] agents.

[Question] Has anyone else been arrested in connection with the case?

[Calvo] No one.

[Question] Attorney General, you have already asked the preliminary questions. He said that the cars were of a certain color. Has he given the number of license plates or mentioned any names?

[Calvo] He has given no license plate numbers, only colors.

[Question] Any names that could help in the investigations?

[Calvo] Yes, however, these persons are not Panamanians, they are foreigners. [end recording]

The local press was then allowed to question Manfred Hoffman, the German citizen with a Panamanian residence permit at the Attorney General's Office.

[Begin recording] [Hoffman] I believe that very soon you will have more reports that will explain the incidents which took place here in the Republic of Panama. I hope the Panamanians will remain calm, and await the results of the investigations. This is not a very simple investigation, like you are probably used to seeing. This is a very delicate international issue. We are receiving bits and pieces of information, like in a game of dominoes. I know and others know about this. I expect that the intellectual authors of Dr Hugo Spadafora's murder on Panamanian territory will soon be captured. All I can tell you is to wait. I am trying to cooperate extensively with the Panamanian civilian and military authorities in order to reconstruct each phase and step. He was seen in Concepcion. We are following very important clues and do not wish to hinder the investigations being carried out by Costa Rica, Panama, Honduras, and El Salvador. We have to be a bit restrained.

[Question] Are you concerned about your safety when you make these statements?

[Hoffman] I know I am taking a risk, but such is life, and one has to face things.

[Question] Why did you bring up the case of Dr Mauro Zuniga and say the same people were involved?

[Hoffman] You will be receiving the reports and information in due time, when everything has been investigated.

[Question] Why did you involve a cell of the FMLN?

[Hoffman] You may have noticed that in the last 3 weeks, the Central American rebel leftists have changed their pattern of aggressiveness. They have committed offenses such as the Honduran-Nicargauan border incident, the kidnapping in El Salvador, and now this incident in Panama. These are tactics generally used by terrorist groups to form new cells.

[Question] Mr Hoffman, it is very interesting to note your connections with the informers of Dr Spadafora's case. Could you explain that to us? Why do you have such connections?

[Hoffman] I have those connections because Costa Rica is a small country, and in recent years when obtaining electronic spare parts became a very obvious situation, there are technicians, engineers who are struggling to keep the radio stations operating in Honduras and El Salvador. [Sentence as heard] Sometimes, one has to come all the way to Panama to find transmitter tubes, reels, and other essential items for radio stations.

[Question] The uniforms used by the kidnappers were not the uniforms of the National Defense Forces?

[Hoffman] According to the descriptions, these were very very different fatigue uniforms. [end recording]

COSTA RICA

GUTIERREZ STRESSES CONCERN FOR PRESERVING PEACE

PA221952 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez has said that Costa Rica's main concern is to preserve peace and not have to resort to U.S. military aid. The foreign minister made this statement when consulted about U.S. President Ronald Reagan's statements to the effect that Central America will not become another Vietnam. The foreign minister said the following:

[Begin recording] The Costa Rican Government's main concern is to preserve peace, and we feel that it should not be necessary to resort to U.S. military aid for this. As we have declared our neutrality and made all efforts to live in peace, we hope that support from U.S. soldiers will never be necessary to maintain Costa Rica's independence and sovereignty, although we bear in mind the commitment made by the U.S. President during his visit to Costa Rica when he said that (?if Costa Rica requests it), the United States will fulfill its commitments according to the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the U.S. public is confused as to whether Costa Rica is participating in the arms race as other countries in the area are doing. In this respect, Foreign Minister Gutierrez added:

[Begin recording] Concerning the arms race in Central America, I must state that Costa Rica is not participating in this race, nor has it ever participated in it. An Italian newspaper recently said that to speak of an arms race in Costa Rica is ridiculous, because what Costa Rica's police department spends is less than half of what the Naples police force spends. [end recording]

You have just heard statements by Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez.

GUTIERREZ VIEWS UN VICE PRESIDENCY AS 'HONOR'

PA220209 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said that the selection of a Costa Rican as vice president of the UN General Assembly is an honor for the Costa Rican people who have been concerned about maintaining their democratic tradition. The foreign minister said that as a result of the support of the Latin American group and the work of Ambassador Fernando Berrocal Soto, the Costa Rican representative was chosen as vice president. Gutierrez stressed that this is politically important because it is recognition of Costa Rica's international prestige.

FOREIGN MINISTER CRITICIZES FIGUERES TRIP TO PRC

PA220050 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez has said that in view of the duality of the actions by former President Jose Figueres, he will have to leave his post as roving ambassador this month. His dual behavior is incompatible with the policy of President Monge's government, so Figueres will have to resign once he returns from his trip to communist China. Figueres, who traveled to Spain to receive an award, made a stopover in Cuba and later traveled to communist China.

Stating that former President Jose Figueres cannot hold an ambassadorial post and maintain a line different from the government's policy, Foreign Minister Gutierrez said that the former president did not inform the Foreign Ministry that he would be traveling to communist China. This duality in Figueres' actions cannot continue since it is incompatible with the policy of Costa Rica which, even in Figueres' own administration, has maintained relations with the Republic of China in Taiwan and not with the communists, the foreign minister added. Regarding Figueres' resignation, he said that he hopes that Figueres will resign, and if Figueres does not, the government will take action. This means that Figueres would be dismissed.

VIDAL SAYS PANAMANIAN RAID REPORTS 'GROUNDLESS'

PA222345 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] Police Director Colonel Oscar Vidal stressed that the Security Ministry had no knowledge of any incursions into Costa Rica by armed men in Panama. This was reported to the press by residents in the area following the discovery of Hugo Spadafor's body in Laurel de Corredores. The residents said that the alleged soldiers presented themselves and threatened people with the weapons they carried.

In the opinion of Colonel Vidal, the current good relations with the Panamanian Government would not warrant the armed incursions reported by the residents of the southern region. He added that the military authorities of the two countries act in coordination when problems arise. The police director feels that the reports by Costa Ricans living near the border with Panama are groundless.

In addition, Colonel Vidal said that the chief of the Southern Command and the officers posted at the civil police stations near the border with Panama have been instructed to carry out a preliminary investigation. The ministry may take precautionary measures depending on the results of this investigation.

The police chief also said that if the residents reassert their charges to the security corps, steps will be taken to prevent a repetition of these irregularities.

CENTRAL BANK ORDERS FURTHER DEVALUATION OF COLON

PA220208 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] The board of directors of the Central Bank has ordered the 15th devaluation of the colon so far during 1985. Beginning today, the purchase price of the dollar is 51.70 colones and the selling price is 52.20 colones. This new mini-devaluation of our currency is equivalent to 25 cents or 5 percent. On 29 August [words indistinct] at 51.45 colones the purchase price and 51.95 colones the selling price. The Central Bank has been speeding up the mini-devaluations of our currency due to the demands of the IMF. Nevertheless, for 3 weeks the Board of Directors of the Central Bank had not ordered a devaluation.

EL SALVADOR

ARMY SPOKESMEN DENY FMLN-FDR HELICOPTER REPORTS

PA220335 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 19 Sep p 23

[Text] Spokesmen of the Armed Forces High Command have denied the report that FMLN-FDR terrorist fighters have shot down three helicopters in Morazan Department.

The spokesmen indicated that a counterinsurgency operation concluded last Tuesday, but other Army units continue their work, searching for camps and destroying them.

It was revealed that the Army carried out 11 large-scale operations during the last 2 months and maintains a permanent activity at national level, carrying out the counterinsurgency plans. As a result of those operations, the Army has inflicted more than 800 casualties on the terrorist groups without bothering to deny the lies and misinformation being broadcast by the FMLN-FDR through the clandestine operations in Nicaragua, according to the military spokesman.

They said that the rebels talk about indiscriminate bombings every day, offending the military commanders' dignity. All this is part of the terrorists' usual strategy when the military units have really hit them hard.

The same sources indicated that the Salvadoran Air Force would never bomb defenseless zones because the Army is engaged in a dirty war imposed from abroad to defend the Salvadoran people who are being threatened by international communism from the Soviet Union, Cuba and Nicaragua.

COPREFA ON CLASHES IN SAN MIGUEL, SAN VICENTE

PA220324 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 17 Sep 85 pp 2, 27

[Text] Two subversives carrying important documentation died during a clash near Chirilagua, San Miguel, Coprefa [Armed Forces Press Committee] reported yesterday. According to Coprefa, the clash occurred near Guadalupe Canton when soldiers of the Conchagua Battalion, stationed in the port city of La Union, spotted a column of terrorists who apparently were wandering through the area. The bodies of the two terrorists were found following the clash. The FAL and G-3 rifles they were carrying were confiscated, as well as other military supplies. Most important, the Army seized documents that are now being carefully analyzed by the military intelligence group in order to assess their real value.

The Jiboa Battalion of the 5th Infantry Brigade stationed in San Vicente reported several clashes with subversive groups near El Guarero Hill, Santa Lucia. During these actions, the government troops seized three AR-15 rifles with their respective ammunition.

Former terrorists Francisco Atensio Argueta, alias Isaias, Juan Hernandez Ruiz, alias Ceferino, and two others who asked not to be identified, turned themselves in to the 5th Infantry Brigade. They said that they came from an FPL [People's Liberation Forces] camp located at El Mono Creek, Tecoluca jurisdiction, and that they wanted to come out of hiding to resume their normal activities, convinced that the violence fomented by that terrorist organization is unfounded.

In conclusion, the official spokesman said that national Navy troops [as published] reported a clash near El Faro Hill, Jucuaran jurisdiction, Usulutan Department, in which two soldiers were killed. The number of subversives killed is unknown.

ARMY REPORTS RESULTS OF VARIOUS OPERATIONS

PA221630 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 18 Sep 85 p 2

[Text] Top-level military sources reported yesterday that the Pedro Pablo Castillo Front has indeed emerged, adding that the Armed Forces intelligence also has information about the formation of another front inside the Mariona Prison and the Women's Rehabilitation Center in Ilopango.

The sources said that these commando groups will act in a coordinated way, carrying out terrorist activities in the country. It was also reported that the estimated number of armed leftists has been reduced to 6,000 men, and the guerrilla commando units on all the country's fronts have adopted defensive tactics, avoiding confrontations with the Army.

The same sources explained that the Armed Forces are dealing overwhelming blows to the guerrilla groups throughout the six military zones in the country, adding that the Army has had to adopt new defensive strategies given the phenomenon of "a changing war." It was reported that the Army is countering all the extremist tactics.

When the sources were asked about the military situation in the country, following the report presented by the Armed Forces Joint Command chief concerning the actions carried out during the first 6 months of this year, it was reported that the Armed Forces carried out 11 8-day major operations in the conflictive military zones, 8 mid-level operations lasting 72 hours, and 3 airborne operations during July and August. The worst military zones were defined thus: north of El Paisnal; north and south of Guazapa; Suchitoto and Cinquera; Cerros de San Pedro in San Vicente; San Bartolo Ichanmico in San Vicente; Bocana del Rio Lempa in La Paz Department; Jucuaran, San Agustin, and Rio Lempa in Usulutan; and zones north of San Miguel, Morazan, and La Union. It was stated that the operations are being carried out almost on a permanent basis.

The following information provides the results of the operations carried out during July and August: guerrilla casualties: 136 dead, 127 wounded, 504 captured, and 101 deserters who turned themselves in to the Army, for a total of 868 casualties; weapons seized from the guerrilla groups: 99 assorted caliber weapons in July and 89 weapons in August; Armed Forces weapons which were lost or damaged: 68 in July and 3 in August; Armed Forces casualties: 53 dead, 249 wounded, and 15 captured or missing, for a total of 317 men.

The sources confirmed the start of operations north of Torola, which we reported in detail yesterday, and another large-scale operation which started yesterday in the area of San Bartolo Ichanmico, San Vicente. The sources also referred to the permanent patrol operations on the San Martin-Suchitoto Highway, the Northern Highway, and throughout the La Laguna-Chalatenango sector. There were also reports that some of the captured extremists have been relased and 70 percent have been arraigned before a military court. There was also information that the guerrilla forces damaged a helicopter 2 days ago in the zone of El Mozote, Morazan Department, and that even though the pilot was wounded he managed to fly to and land the aircraft in San Miguel. Another helicopter was damaged 15 days ago in the zone of Corinto, Ilopango. Lastly, it was reported that there are no guerrilla camps in the western zone and the terrorist actions there are infrequent; however, the leftist groups have created a psychological fear among the people in the area.

HONDURAS

PAZ BARNICA RESPONDS TO MINISTERS ON CONTADORA

PA220117 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Sep 85 p 3

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- While attending an Andean Pact meeting in Cartagena de Indias, the foreign ministers of Colombia and Venezuela, Dr Augusto Ramirez Ocampo and Dr Simon Alberto Consalvi, respectively, both members of the Contadora Group, and the foreign minister of Peru, Dr Allan Wagner Tizon, member of the Lima Group, sent a telex dated 14 September 1985 to Foreign Secretary Dr Edgardo Paz Barnica to express their concern over the incidents that took place along the border with Nicaragua during the Nicaraguan Army's attack on Honduran territory and against the Honduran people. Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica's response today to the above message follows:

Mr Minister:

I am honored to address Your Excellency to acknowledge receipt of the message dated 14 September which was issued in the city of Cartagena de Indias with their excellencies, the foreign ministers of Peru and Venezuela.

The Honduran Government has carefully studied this message and shares Your Excellency's concern over the dangerous turn in the already complex Central American situation, caused by the acts of unjustified aggression committed by Nicaragua's Sandinist People's Army against the people and territory of Honduras.

Due to their deep-seated and profound conviction, the Honduran Government and people view peace as the fundamental value that our nations should pursue. In this connection, Your Excellency must be aware of Honduras' persevering and constructive participation in the Contadora forum, as well as its constant willingness to achieve peaceful solutions through dialogue.

Under these circumstances, Your Excellency must understand that my government's limited defensive action was carefully mediated because although on the one hand there is the earnest desire for peace to which I have referred above, on the other there is a constitutional obligation to defend our national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Your Excellency can rest assured that Honduras will honor the commitments made within the Contadora Group which seek to maintain regional peace. However, if it becomes absolutely necessary, Honduras will prudently but firmly exercise the right to legitimate defense authorized by Article 51 of the UN Charter.

I take advantage of this occasion to reiterate to Your Excellency my highest and most distinguished consideration.

FINANCE SECRETARIAT ON DEBT REFINANCING POSITION

PA220200 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] The Finance and Public Credit Secretariat and the Central Bank hereby inform the Honduran people of the latest position regarding the renegotiation of the foreign debt, most of which has been acquired by private enterprises and is guaranteed by the government. This debt surpasses $200 million and includes amortizations until 1989. The overdue balance is $144.3 million, less than 10 percent of the Honduran foreign debt.

In accordance with Resolution 979, on 7 June 1982 the constitutional president of the Republic appointed the Honduran Government's negotiation commission for the foreign debt. It is comprised of the following individuals: Roberto Galvez Barnes, Guillermo Bueso Enrique Ortez Colindres, Edgardo Dumas Rodriguez, and Roberto Ramirez. Along with the finance secretary and Honduran Central Bank president, this commission has been negotiating with foreign creditor banks which are represented by a coordinating committee that is headed by executives of the Lloyds Bank International and the Bank of America.

On 5 December 1984 in Miami, the negotiating commission and the coordinating committee agreed on a summary of the main terms for the renegotiation of the aforementioned debt. It was established in that document that if Honduras did not reach an agreement with the IMF before the date set for converting its debt to the long term, future courses of actions would be discussed. These would include the extension of the due dates of the pending loans and the procedures to convert those debts.

Nevertheless, the draft of the refinancing agreement that the banks subsequently presented totally omitted the flexibility established in the summary of terms for alternatives in the event Honduras did not reach an agreement with the IMF. As a result of this situation and aware of its responsibilities and the fact that it cannot permit any reduction in its ability to formulate and implement the economic, fiscal, monetary, and foreign exchange policy most advisable for the country's situation and much less a debt refinancing agreement with the international private banks, the Honduran Government reiterated to the committee that it was not willing to commit itself or the next government to sign an agreement with the IMF because it believes that such a commitment would ostensibly weaken the Honduran Government's position during any possible negotiation with the IMF.

That position was extensively explained by the commission to the foreign banks' coordinating committee during last week's meeting in New York. Because the creditor banks refused to consider alternatives other than an agreement with the IMF for converting the Honduran Government's indirect foreign debt, the commission notified the banks that in light of the proximity of the Honduran elections, it was suspending the negotiations until the creditor banks make their position more flexible or until the next government decides its policy regarding to the IMF. Since the foreign banks are not acting in accordance with the terms agreed upon in principle in the Miami meeting, especially regarding the possibility of discussing alternatives other than an agreement with the IMF, the Honduran Government leaves without effect the other terms agreed upon in principle in the Miami meeting to be free to propose improvements in future negotiations on the basis of the agreements that other Latin American countries might obtain in refinancing their debts. Meanwhile, to the extent that the availability of its international monetary reserves permits, the Honduran Government will continue to try to maintain the payment of the interests on the debt up to date, which is the object of the negotiation as long as the foreign banks continue granting an extension of the due dates for the payment of the principal of such debts.

Fontecha Views Stand

PA222302 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Report on interview with Manuel Fontecha, secretary of state for finance and public credit, by an unidentified reporter on 18 September; place not given -- passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [Fontecha] "During a meeting today we reported to the president on the results of our recent meetings in New York City with foreign banks. A bulletin outlining the position maintained by the Honduran delegation has already been published. We insisted on the impossibility of committing the current and upcoming government to signing an agreement with the IMF."

[Reporter] If an agreement is reached with foreign banks through the IMF, would the lempira be devalued?

[Fontecha] "No, we would simply continue to negotiate in keeping with our stand that neither this nor the next government should negotiate under pressure. That is, neither should be pressured into committing itself to reaching an agreement. I believe that it should be an open negotiation allowing our country and the IMF to present their viewpoints in order to arrive at a solution in keeping with the country's economic reality."

[Reporter] What kind of pressure is being exerted on the Honduran Government?

[Fontecha] "We are not really talking about pressure, but positions. In order to ensure payments on the debt, foreign banks normally insist that debtor countries sign agreements with the IMF. However, in view of the IMF stand adopted in previous meetings, the government ruled out the possibility of such an agreement; we do not want to commit the next administration in this regard."

[Reporter] As for the government's international credibility, the minister said:

[Fontecha] "I do not think that there has been a significant improvement in the credibility of the government, especially in the area of international credit relations. Creditor banks with whom Honduras is renegotiating its debt have been granting de facto extensions on principal maturity dates. To date, no bank has filed suit against Honduras and in turn the Honduran Government, in keeping with its possibilities, has continued to pay off interests on its debts. This will continue independently of whether an agreement is reached at this time."

NICARAGUA

WALTERS CITED ON 'HOSTILE' U.S. POLICY

PA230132 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] The new U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, retired General Vernon Walters, today reaffirmed the friendly policy toward the racist South African regime and the hostile policy toward Nicaragua followed by the Reagan administration. The AGENCIA NUEVA NICARAGUA carried a New York-datelined item to the effect that Walters pointed out the U.S. interest in halting what he described as the violent expansion of the Nicaraguan revolution toward El Salvador and also in obtaining reforms in South Africa through a policy of constructive commitments. Walters also tried to justify the U.S. financial support for the counterrevolutionaries, arguing that these are pressures to force the Sandinist government to make reforms. He said that according to the Rio Treaty, the United States is obligated to halt the alleged expansion of the Sandinist revolution. Walters' charges of Sandinist expansionism in Central America were defended at the International Court of Justice in The Hague by former CIA analyst David MacMichael, who disclosed that since 1981 the U.S. Government has not received any specific evidence that the Sandinist government is giving material support to the Salvadoran guerrillas. [sentence as heard]

CARRION VIEWS INTERNATIONAL COURT PROCEEDINGS

PA231705 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1439 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Interview with Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion Cruz by Luis Cabrera, director of information of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and unidentified reporter at Managua's Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport -- live]

[Text] [Cabrera] Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion Cruz has just returned from The Hague. Commander, we would like to know the results of the presentation at the International Court of Justice [ICJ].

[Carrion] I participated in the process filed by Nicaragua against the United States at the ICJ as one of the witnesses for Nicaragua. In addition, Nicaragua presented five [as heard] other witnesses -- Finance Minister William Hupper, former CIA official MacMichael; Michael Glennon, a U.S. citizen who is president of an organization that investigates (?violations) of human rights; and a French priest who works here in Nicaragua.

Although the United States is not participating in the trial, the ICJ is moving ahead with the trial as if it were. Thus, the ICJ demands that all testimony be truthful and from qualified sources. We feel that Nicaragua's witnesses and all documents and other evidence submitted by Nicaragua to the court convincingly and unquestionably demonstrate the U.S. Government's responsibility in the aggression that Nicaragua is enduring, and that the United States is directly responsible for the death, destruction, and suffering of our people.

[Cabrera] Commander Luis Carrion, in the past few days, the U.S. Administration (?and) the State Department have refused to turn over documents which have been requested for congressional investigations on the collaboration between the administration itself with counterrevolutionary groups and, (?indirectly), the work with the CIA against Nicaragua. What is your view of this?

[Carrion] There is a clear will on the part of the U.S. Government to continue its aggression against Nicaragua in violation of its own very laws and of all international laws and rules. This aggression is so immoral and unlawful that even a government such as Reagan's feels a certain shame in completely releasing to the public proof of this aggression, which is known throughout the world. I think that the ICJ...[changes thought] we are confident that it will rule in favor of Nicaragua's position because the documents and evidence we submitted are more than enough.

[Reporter] What steps are to be taken now that Nicaragua has submitted this evidence and testimony? When will the The Hague ruling be made known?

[Carrion] The judges take time to deliberate but the verdict is expected in late November or early December.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] for Nicaragua, were you able to determine the impact among all of the [word indistinct] jurors who are taking part in it?

[Carrion] No, a principle of this court is to reserve all of its opinions until the final verdict is rendered. However, the convincing [contundencia] evidence and testimony that Nicaragua submitted leads us to think that the verdict will be in favor of Nicaragua.

[Cabrera] With regard to public opinion in The Hague, what has been the repercussion of Nicaragua's presentation and all that new evidence?

[Carrion] In the Netherlands and other European countries the media gave significant coverage to this new round of sessions, so to speak, to the presentation of witnesses, and to the statements and arguments submitted by the lawyers. We think that there was adequate coverage in Europe.

[Cabrera] Commander Luis Carrion, don't you think that this [words indistinct] that could be given to the U.S. Administration would encourage the U.S. aggressive attitude toward Nicaragua?

[Carrion] I think that the aggressive attitude of the United States against Nicaragua requires no incentives. It emanates from the imperialist will of the U.S. Government. On the contrary, we think that a ruling in favor of Nicaragua will bolster Nicaragua's position at all international forums and even in the United States. In addition, it would record for history the first ICJ ruling, if it indeed occurs, against the United States. We also expect an indemnity [payment] to be approved and that [word indistinct] U.S. Government...[changes thought] that when the administration or government leaders of that country recover their sense of shame and morals they will make up their minds to pay the compensation Nicaragua is demanding for the damages caused by the U.S. aggression.

[Cabrera] Thank you, Commander Carrion.

ORTEGA HOLDS 'FACE THE PEOPLE' WITH NEWSMEN

PA211920 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0313 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Statement by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega on the "Face the People" program held at the Newsmen's Association headquarters in Managua -- live]

[Text] Several years have passed by since the last time we met with journalists. We met in this same place in 1981, on 1 January 1981. I would say that this meeting has more substance because of the type of questions and proposals and because of the creative role that journalists play in a revolutionary process.

The subjects that have been discussed this evening have been many. I believe that the final word has not been said on many of these subjects. More discussions are necessary, more careful thinking is in order to be able to decide on some proposals that have been made here.

But there are facts that cannot be denied, facts that we defend now and will continue defending. We believe that in Nicaragua there is freedom of the press. There is freedom of the press in the sense that the various social, political, and economic sectors of this country have access to the media. There are restrictions, this is true, but the essence of freedom of the press in this country is alive. We have said that in Nicaragua, for the first time in its history, the masses -- the workers, the peasants, the artisans, the intellectuals, and even the journalists -- have access to the media. They have had suitable access to the media.

This policy, which serves the fundamental democratic principles of our revolution because it gives the working people access to the media, has not denied the bourgeoisie, the capitalists, or the exploiting sectors access to the news media. The revolution has not ignored the existence of these sectors, and therefore permits them, given them the opportunity to use the media. In the past the exploiting minorities did deny the workers and peasants their right to have access to the media. The revolutionary forces, the democratic forces, were denied access to the media. However, the revolutionary, democratic, and popular forces that now have political power in Nicaragua give those sectors the opportunity to participate, and therefore those sectors have been given access to the media.

This means that in essence there is true freedom of the press in Nicaragua. There are restrictions to freedom of the press. This is true. There are such restrictions. Freedom of the press benefits equally newspapers such as the daily LA PRENSA, papers that call themselves revolutionary and proletarian, and other papers that are in the hands of the workers and the people within the revolutionary process.

This is a subject that we must constantly discuss with both friends and enemies who visit Nicaragua. We must look at the press censorship problem. Is the Nicaraguan Government or the Sandinist people's revolution responsible, perhaps, for press censorship here? Press censorship is nothing but a defense mechanism of the revolution, a mechanism that we apply because there is an aggression from a foreign power -- from the United States of North America -- which has a president who spends practically every day defending his terrorist policy against the Nicaraguan people. He wants to use, among other things, the media of those who call themselves rightists and pro-imperialists and of those who call themselves revolutionaries and have ultraleftist positions. That president wants to use this media to undermine the foundations of the revolution and to destroy the revolutionary process in Nicaragua.

The revolution has the right and the obligation to defend itself. Here we are not going to make -- no, I am not going to say the same errors -- here we are not going to repeat Chilean history. In Chile the Popular Unity government of Salvador Allende had access to the government, but it did not have access to power. Power remained in the hands of imperialism, the exploiters, the capitalists of Chile. The Army remained in the hands of the exploiters, the capitalists. The media remained in the hands of the capitalists and the exploiters. The main basis of the economy remained in the hands of the capitalists and the exploiters. This is why imperialism was able to implement easily its plan to eliminate a popular government that had emerged out of elections, the democratic way. Then the United States did not respect democracy and swept the Popular Unity government away. The media played a key role in undermining the Popular Unity government of President Salvador Allende.

The situation here is different. Here, real power is in the hands of the people. But in spite of the fact that real power is in the hands of the people, since we are facing a powerful enemy who wants to destroy the revolution, we are not going to be so naive as to give them room in the news media to undermine us and destroy our revolution.

The restrictions on freedom of the press in our country -- we have restricted freedom of the press -- have a reason. It is restricted, but, who is responsible for press censorship here? Who? The U.S. Government. If the U.S. Government abandoned its policy of aggression against Nicaragua, if it stopped financing the mercenary forces, if it stopped threatening our country with its military maneuvers and using Honduras and Costa Rica as instruments in the aggression against Nicaragua, if it stopped attacking us in the political and economic sector, if it stopped behaving as a terrorist against Nicaragua, then there would be no reason for restriction of the press here.

Whether or not there are restrictions on freedom of the press here depends on the U.S. Government, on the terrorist policy of the U.S. Government.

Any out-of-the-ordinary measure presents risks whenever it is applied. We realize that in applying censorship measures on the media -- on the press, the radio, and on television -- we take a chance of doing too much or too little. We realize that on some occasions some reports that could be published -- if there is no reason for banning them -- are not published and on some occasions some reports on which censorship should be applied are published.

Of course, the task that Companera Melba [not further identified] has is not an easy one. It is a complex, difficult task. It is no easy task. This is the fundamental problem. We are aware of the fact that excesses can occur in the application of the press censorship policy. We are making efforts as far as orientation and guidelines go, to resolve this situation. We will continue making these efforts so that the application of press censorship in our country improves.

We have a difficult situation in Nicaragua. This is a difficult situation from a material, economic, and financial point of view. This is not a problem created by Nicaragua because we have a revolution. This is a problem created by the United States, which does not want to accept this revolution. It wants to liquidate the revolution. It attacks the revolution. And this represents a cost to the revolution of material assets and human lives.

In addition to this, there is a crisis situation in Latin America. It is an economic and financial crisis. There are international trade problems, and we are at a disadvantage, all the Latin American people are at a disadvantage. The debt problem affects all the Latin American countries. Nicaragua has the burden of the worldwide economic crisis that affects Latin America and the economic burden that results from the imperialist aggression.

Then, we have to adapt our way of thinking, our consciences. Journalists have to play a very important role in this regard. They have to help in the task of orienting the population. All of us must adapt ourselves to this new reality. And we say this new reality because when the revolution achieved victory, we had expectations, and we fed to the people expectations that did not take into consideration a confrontation of this extent with the U.S. Government in the short or medium term. All the plans we had devised -- the economic plans, the social programs, all the plans we made for our territory -- had been made with much optimism. They were also unrealistic.

We had plans to invest much more in areas that would benefit the people. We wanted to resolve a problem of centuries in a matter of years. This is why we set for ourselves the task of filling the country with schools, hospitals and health centers, cultural centers, and with construction work of every nature -- roads, highways.

The truth is that the country did not have the material basis for the huge demand in material, financial, and human resources. We spent the first few years at that pace of investment and expenditure. But as the years went by, the imperialist aggression was also advancing. The imperialist aggression was being developed, but we continued on, without changing our investment habits or our development and social programs. We continued maintaining our plans in spite of the fact that the true situation was changing.

And these days we will have not changed our mentality to face the real situation that the imperialist aggression and the international economic crisis have imposed on us. This means that we have to put our feet on the economic and material ground, on the war that Nicaragua is enduring.

When we say this we are referring to government and political cadres of the entire nation. We are speaking about the entire nation. The rank and file cadres demand services, goods, housing, and transportation, believing that we have the ability to respond to those needs. The cadres at higher government and political levels try to respond to these problems, when facts tell us that we have to enforce a survival policy in our country, a policy of economic survival to win the big battle against the imperialist aggression. This is the big objective we have right now.

This has moved us to put limits on the amount of paper that goes to the newspapers, among other measures. We have had to put limits on this. Why? Because we have to import it, in spite of donations. The maintenance of machinery and spare parts is also expensive. We have taken measures and continue taking measures in every sector, and paper can be no exception. Paper is required for textbooks in this country, for the education of children. We have had to reduce the budget for expanding schools because schools are required in rural areas near the cities.

We have had to freeze and reduce budgets for health programs, programs that are vital for the people. We had to limit paper also.

In spite of this, since we have not noticed a realistic attitude, even among the more capable, the more discerning, the more logical people -- those who are brighter, who know the economic situation better, including political and government cadres -- we have to continue taking somewhat strong measures from the top.

When we meet with the ministers of the revolutionary government we tell them: We have a budget that is too big. We have a deficit that represents a threat to the country. This has to be controlled, and you are going to help control it. You are going to reduce your budget, you are going to reduce investments. How do the ministers respond to this, to the task assigned to them? They demand more expenditures, a bigger budget, more investment. Everything is a priority. Everything is indispensable. The attitude of the cadres who are at the head of the country is not in line with the country's true situation. So we have to adopt effective measures.

This situation has forced us to face this reality and respond to it. For this reason it is logical that there should be proposals regarding paper. It is logical that the paper matter should be raised. Regarding paper, a few days ago we decided to reduce the size of our country's newspapers to 60 pages per week. Each newspaper has to adjust itself to these 60 pages. Each has to see how to better distribute the news and the advertisements. This is the situation. There is no other way. There is no other way. This is the true situation.

A new newspaper would demand paper, and education demands paper. We, of course, prefer to give the paper for textbooks rather than for new newspapers in this country. I believe that the proletariat, the workers of this country, have enough newspapers to worry about without new newspapers and dailies.

This is the problem. I like to say that I understand the reason for the proposals. There are companeros who have their positions, revolutionary positions, and don't have a newspaper. We can also understand why the newspaper of the right -- the pro-imperialist newspaper -- does not lack paper. We all know where the right's newspaper gets its paper. It is supplied to them by the CIA, which of course will not supply paper to the progressive, democratic, and revolutionary newspapers of this country. This is our reality, and at this moment we cannot respond to this difficult, true situation of the country, of our economy.

Here cotton has been a source of foreign exchange that served in the past to make the capitalists wealthy at the expense of the workers. The pro-Yankee exploiters who have remained in our country awaiting a Yankee invasion that would put them back in power miss this cotton bonanza. What happened with cotton? To produce one manzana of cotton now costs much more than in the (?1970's). Why? Because those who sell the fertilizers, the agrochemicals, the machinery, and the spare parts needed to produce cotton sell those products at higher and higher prices. They are the ones who decide the cotton prices. The price of cotton is currently low. Do we want them to pay us a low price for the cotton? They are the ones who impose the cotton prices. We had estimated that even with low prices we would sell cotton at about $60 a quintal. Its price is currently $47 to $50 a quintal, in other words $10 to $13 less than we had estimated. This is terrible for an economy like that of Nicaragua. It is also terrible for all the Latin American economies that export cotton. The situation is difficult. In the economic crisis the prices of the export products continue downward. The aggression suffered by Nicaragua is added to the economic crisis. It makes the economic crisis even worse. This explains such measures as that dealing with the paper.

We were saying that we need to understand this reality in order to be able to respond to it. A term was used here with regard to not sending the boys out to the field, in other words, not sending them out to the regions without meeting all the conditions. The truth is that we have to work with the mentality, with the willingness to go out to the field because, all things considered, the revolution is being defended there. When the controversy arises here between some companero journalists and the labor minister about the issue of salaries, we think that the reality is not being seen. First of all, we are forgetting that the country's problem, as with all the countries that suffer this kind of crisis, is not a wage problem. If it were a wage problem, then all the economic crises in the world would be resolved. All you would have to do would be to print paper money and increase wages to solve the problem. The revolutionary or rightist government that did not apply such a measure would be more than stupid. That would be the magic formula that would resolve all the problems of the economy in the world. Therefore, we cannot ignore that the problem of our countries is a problem of economic development.

It is a problem of production. It is a problem that also has to do with international economic relations. In our particular case, aware of our reality and all the measures that we have adopted, it is a problem of distribution to take the few products that we have at the established prices or even at a lower price to all the country's workers. We will not gain anything by increasing wages. Wage increases would just increase the prices of the products. There would be more money for speculation by the unscrupulous merchants. We have to control the unscrupulous merchants. We have to apply the measures that we discussed in the assembly of the workers. Among other things, we saw that things that were not the best were being carried out by some government institutions and how it was necessary that MICOIN [Domestic Trade Ministry], for example, not earn a cent on the staples it is marketing. It should just be able to pay its operating costs, and that is all. By implementing this it would reduce by 50 percent the prices of those basic products. That is what the workers demand. The workers have demanded that they obtain the products at the established price, not that they be unable to obtain the products at the established price.

Therefore, the problem in our country is not one of wages. It is a problem of production, first of all. In light of the measures that we have adopted, it is a problem of better regulating the distribution of the few products that we have available. To the extent that we can produce a little more amid these difficulties and this aggression, then we will have more supplies and therefore create more opportunities for price reductions so that the workers will be able to buy those products with the wages that they have.

The journalists must help explain this to the people. Who is worth more, a doctor or a journalist? I don't think we are trying to discuss here who is worth more, because how much does a soldier of our Army earn? How much does a soldier of our Army earn, and how much does a journalist earn? I think a journalist earns three times more than a low-ranking soldier of our Army. If we are going to start comparing who is worth more, than we would reach the conclusion that it is the soldier who is risking his life every day and who is dying every day and who should be paid much more than anyone in this country. But that is not the idea. We have to base salaries on the reality in which we find our country and our society, which we are gradually transforming but which we cannot destroy.

There are values that we will not destroy overnight. Even among the journalists there are differences. It is just that a journalist who is good should earn more than a journalist who is not good. There are good journalists, and there are bad journalists.

The scale of material values does not negate the scale of moral values. The moral values should be worth more than the material values. There should be willingness to sacrifice even salaries when the situation so requires. Therefore, we think it was incorrect and immature to enter into that competition with the doctors. There have been valuable, heroic, and revolutionary journalists ever since the time of the struggle against the Somoza dictatorship, just as there have been heroic and revolutionary doctors ever since the time of the struggle against Somoza. There have also been doctors and journalists who have been scoundrels since the time of the struggle against Somoza. They continue to exist at this time in this country. This is also the case at all levels and sectors of our society. No sector is free of this.

Here we enter into the topic of the abilities of journalists. Is the journalist responsible for his lack of training in Nicaragua? Are we going to be ashamed of that now? Aren't we going to accept that reality? That is the reality. We have pointed this out on other occasions. In this country we inherited a general level of underdevelopment, of backwardness, of deformities that have affected everyone. It has affected everyone. It has affected all sectors, levels, and classes. Centuries of domination have deformed all the sectors of society. Ah, were the journalists going to evade those deformities and that decomposition? The journalists could not evade this, just as the workers, students, engineers, doctors, or whoever could not evade this. There was a situation of general decomposition in the type of system that prevailed in our country in the past. It is natural that after the revolutionary triumph the journalist, like the rest of society, bears a number of defects, deformities, and backwardness that we have inherited and that we are gradually going to overcome. If we are not aware of this, we will feel we are self-sufficient, we will not see our errors, we will think we are the world's greatest journalists, and we will never improve. That is the reality.

The revolution gives the journalists, like all the sectors of society, the opportunity to develop with a new mentality, with new beliefs, and to obtain a better education. But we inherited some things, and suddenly we practice yellow journalism and we do not contribute to informing the people. This is a generalized problem. I would not say it is a problem of a specific news organ. We are constantly evaluating the various news media, and we see that it is a generalized problem. No newspapers, radio station, or television station in this country escapes this. There are a number of deformities, errors of forms of presentation and content of the programs that could not leave anyone satisfied. Instead, this forces us to maintain a permanent attitude of self-criticism in order to improve and increase the quality of the information in this country, of the communication with the people.

The problem is not of bad words, it is a deeper problem of concepts. With regard to the problem of language and bad words, what are the bad words? Who decides what is a bad word? Many times culture does not reject bad words. It incorporates them. However, the misuse of what we call bad words is incorrect. We can fall into the other extreme. As Che said, our effort should be to use the people's language and to link ourselves with the people in order to raise the people's level rather than to remain at that level. We must not remain at the level of ignorance where centuries of exploitation kept us. That is not the idea. After centuries of exploitation we find illiterate people. Should we remain at the stage of illiteracy in order to be popular and to be with the people? That is incorrect. We have to become immersed with the people so that all of us can emerge from illiteracy. One has to know how to use that which we call bad words. Rugama [Sandinist hero] used a bad word, but he knew how to use it when he confronted the Somozist guardsmen; he said: Let your damn mother surrender. Those were words that were well used against an enemy.

But many times in the news media in this country bad words are used to give free rein to the little disputes that journalists sometimes have. They are used to refer to another journalist in another news media, and then that journalist uses his news media to respond to the other. Where are we going to end with that? How can we help the people raise their level with that? We would just be deforming the people. Even if the so-called bad words are not used, we could also be guilty of vulgarity. Therefore, we face a problem here. If we want to present ourselves as developed people, we are not acting correctly if we do not deal with that problem. We have insisted that in order to be critics in all senses of the word and to be able to speak well or badly of a specific activity, not to destroy but to encourage improvement or praise improvement, we first of all have to be self-critical. We must see where we are failing; we must see whether we are disciplined; we must see how we are behaving.

The problem of salaries is a problem of indiscipline in this country. Therefore, it also exists among the journalists. It is a problem of indiscipline that is logically provoked by the economic crisis that destabilizes us. There is indiscipline. There is an opportunistic mentality. Therefore, we fall in what is called salary anarchy. Why? Because since there is such a demand for technicians, a technician can gamble with his salary. Today they offered him a specific salary here, and if somewhere else they offer him more, he goes over there. He can go from job to job like this. Therefore, the technical professional becomes a speculator. He speculates with the need for his services and work. There are radio, press, news media workers, and journalists who also speculate. We know of countless cases of companeros who have passed through three or four communications media, and each time they obtain higher salaries. Each time they move they get a salary increase. They are guilty of opportunism. And the ministry has been struggling to see how it can stabilize this matter of the salaries. We have a maladjustment and anarchy in the salaries that we have yet to overcome. We continue to study measures to see how we can solve this problem of the salaries, which not only exists among journalists but is a generalized problem in the country.

The problem of the tape recorders and the cassettes was brought up here. I think the companeros of Voz de Nicaragua brought it up. I remember that the Voz de Nicaragua was authorized tape recorders and cassettes. But what happened? The journalists reported them missing. When the journalists left Voz de Nicaragua, the tape recorders would disappear. You cannot be handing out tape recorders like that. What can be done? We might implement the policy that emerged here when it was brought up by Comapanera Lili and that is that for the store that sells the tape recorders to be authorized to sell them to the UPN [Union of Nicaraguan Journalists] in cordobas and that the UPN then sell them to the journalists. Each journalist would then have his own tape recorders, and then when he goes to work he will take his tool and not expect the radio station to give him his tool, because we are not going to authorize that tape recorders be handed out by the radio stations if they are lost. In this way, we would be providing a solution to the problem of the tape recorders.

Regarding criticism of the Sandinist police, the Armed Forces, the government, etc., we have said that no one is exempt from criticism in this country, especially not those institutions at the service of the people. The important thing is to know how to criticize. Criticism should be constructive, not destructive. This is what's important. No one here is denying the possibility of criticism. We believe that criticism enriches the people. The people have had the opportunity to reach the ministries and the various institutions with their criticism through the media.

The media is a very important element in criticism. Criticism must be constructive. We cannot be happy and proud because we are criticizing the police, or feel very strong and very brave because we are criticizing the police or the Army. Criticism should be for the purpose of helping the police correct mistakes and errors that may have been committed by the police or members of the Army. We must criticize to help them, not to destroy them. We believe that criticism itself must remain.

The problem of journalists' not having access to government officials is a problem that we have been experiencing for quite some time. For example, we have what Carlos Fernando [Chamorro] has mentioned about institutionalism, which is a weakness that journalists must overcome. Is this clear?

If this mentality of depending on the institutions exists, then when a journalist cannot find information at the institution he feels lost, up in the air, that he has no source or way to find the news when, in fact, the main actors, those who create the news every day -- the people -- are right there. However, this journalist won't see the people because he is waiting for an official to give him the news.

In addition to this I would say that this is the most accessible government in the world. It is very accessible to the news media, very open. Why? Every week we have these meetings with the Nicaraguan people, and the journalists can attend. The journalists are invited to these meetings. Many subjects and many problems emerge at these meetings. We find this information from a minister who is at a "Face the People" program with us, with the workers from the cities and from the countryside, with the people from the neighborhoods, with professionals, and with the various sectors of our society more valuable than the information given from behind a desk.

In this country we have our government's cabinet make a public appearance every week to report to the people. We face the people to report to the people on our actions, our work. The people recognize errors and criticize them at these meetings. In this the journalists have a rich source. This does not mean that the journalists don't need official information on measures, policies, and decisions of the central government.

Here a companero has mentioned a proposal that has been discussed. Today we gained some information about this proposal. We cannot decide on that right now. We must study it further to see if it is possible to find an answer that will help establish better communications between the officials of the revolutionary government and the newsmen. However, it is important that journalists do look at the great actor, the people. Our country's journalists must develop an understanding of the true situation in Nicaragua. No one can think about developing journalism in our country in the midst of a confrontation between the new and old generation of journalists. If this were the case, the future of journalism in Nicaragua would be tragic.

No one can advance while rejecting the journalists who formed their careers outside the university, the empirical journalists. They have experience and still have a role in our country. They helped in the development of journalists in the university. There must be communication between the two generations. There must be continuity and not negation. There must be an enriching continuity and not an absolute negation.

We have little, it is true, but we can be enriched by the experience of the empirical journalists in the country and by the journalists from the university. By the way, the fact that a person graduates from a university does not mean that he is automatically a good journalist. The university does not make good journalists. It provides knowledge. The good journalist is one who applies that knowledge, taking into consideration the true situation. A good journalist can emerge out of a what was once a bad journalist.

Journalism must be in line with the material situation in the country. If we give scholarships to students and if we give them full scholarships, we should be giving them to good students. We are not giving the possibility for study only to those who have the material resources to study and who can afford the luxury of wasting 1 year. We give scholarships to those who have talent and qualify.

We can make a full-time study of journalism students, see how journalists are incorporated into our true situation, and see to it that journalists clearly understand that they can be mobilized at any given moment and that if they are of military age they can be mobilized. They must clearly understand the demands of the revolution in our country.

We could comment exhaustively on this. Of course, we cannot do that. We have just expressed our points of view on positions you have outlined this evening. We are going to conclude by congratulating the journalists who, in the midst of the difficulties of our process and of the imperialist aggression, continue struggling, are here in Nicaragua working, form part of the journalists organization, and are, therefore, revolutionary journalists who are debating the natural condtradictions that emerge in all revolutionary processes. Many of these journalists have covered the war fronts outstandingly. This evening we are remembering the companero journalists who fell before and after the revolutionary victory.

Thank you.

BAYARDO ARCE ON FSLN POLITICAL, IDEOLOGICAL VIEWS

Part I

PA220142 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Report on Part I of interview with Commander Bayardo Arce by an unidentified "Radio Information" newscast reporter; date and place not given]

[Text] Commander Bayardo Arce, member of the FSLN National Directorate and deputy coordinator of the FSLN Executive Commission, said during an exclusive interview with "Radio Information" newscast that some parties which oppose the FSLN have undertaken the task of attempting to interpret some of the concepts, outlined during a report [not further identified], from a dogmatic viewpoint without considering Nicaragua's situation. Therefore, Commander Arce explained some of these concepts, based on political and ideological viewpoints, within the FSLN's thinking and their effective implementation in the diverse sectors that are part of the country's reality.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] In its report, the FSLN first defined itself as a democratic, popular government. From an ideological and political viewpoint, how does the FSLN interpret that definition?

[Arce] On that occasion, Commander Daniel Ortega explained that we view the concept of democratic nature under the terms we have been advocating since the triumph of the revolution, that is, that the interests of the majority must prevail. Our people are chiefly workers, peasants, artisans, and popular sectors whose political interests were previously unrepresented because the country's political life reflected economic interests through the parties. At that time, no one of humble birth could hope to be a deputy or dream of being a presidential candidate unless he had a great deal of money to back him. And of course, poor people have never had money. Thanks to our revolution's actions, this was made possible, since all the parties, regardless of their size, received equal sums of money to conduct their campaigns.

For this reason, people who certainly never in their lives dreamed of being candidates, such as Allan Zambrana, Manuel Estrada, Domingo Sanchez, and others, came to be candidates for the first time. Where could they have gotten 12 million cordobas, which is what a campaign basically costs, before? Even when the news media awarded preferential rates, those rates were subsidized. Logically, they never would have had that opportunity. Therefore, we implement the democratic nature, in the sense that the people's value is effectively felt. However, we are not sidelining the minority. That is, we are not proposing a double standard. Since the rich governed before and denied poor people all their rights, although the latter were the majority, we are not now proposing that the poor should govern and deny the rich all their rights. We are proposing that since power reflects the wish of the majority of the people, the minority, regardless of whether they are wealthy, must subject their interests to the overall concept determined by the majority in power.

[Reporter] In that respect, some parties are insisting that the FSLN is misrepresenting these terms. According to these parties, the term people's democracy is used and theorized by socialist countries and Marxist-Leninist ideologues. Under what category will the FSLN's definition fall?

[Arce] It falls under the category the FSLN has always used to handle our problems, that is, the nationalist, Sandinist category. We have always shied away from the use of handbooks which were the result of other situations, and from other historical contexts which, in addition, were not written in Spanish but rather were translated into Spanish from other languages. If there are persons who follow those manuals and those views, this is a problem that stems from those sectors' political backwardness, not ours. We have been rescuing our history's genuine and native contributions, Sandino's contributions. The FSLN studied Sandino, it rescued him, it continues researching his thoughts and works for those elements that will help us build the basis of our own revolution. That does not mean that we ignore or reject universal experiences, or experiences from other countries that may be applicable to our own. Our starting point is Sandinism. No other political force, either from the right or the left, ever did that. Some forgot about Sandino and sought the answer to our problems in the historical experiences of our problems; they sought the answers to Nicaragua's history in other textbooks and other struggles. Others, who simply were not interested in change, forgot history, and also decided to bury Sandino and hide him from our people. For that reason they cannot understand our language, which is the language of history. [end recording]

Commenting on its foreign policy, Commander Arce said that the FSLN defines itself as anti-imperialist, anti-interventionist, Latin Americanist, and nonaligned. Based on that view of what FSLN aspires to be, Commander Arce explained the practical impact of these concepts in relation to the latest military clashes which were provoked by the Honduran Army.

[Begin recording] [Arce] In fact, considering the situation of war tension we experienced recently, we are reaffirmed in our desire and our decision to write into the constitution and to strive for the process of Central American and Latin American integration. Why? We are completely certain that the Honduran people did not attack us. In fact the Honduran guards who were involved in this military action and who fired at our positions were not striking for Honduran interests. I would say that they are not purposely representing Honduran interests. We have said that these incidents take place due to U.S. influence which, as is known, has controlled Honduras to the extent that the U.S. Government has military bases [in Honduras] to train Salvadorans and has modernized [Honduran] landing strips, naval bases, and so forth in order to have an infrastructure for intervention in Central America. Moreover, through military and economic cooperation and military training, the U.S. Government has been politically influencing Honduran soldiers. In no way do they [not further specified] represent Honduran interests. As a matter of fact, we are aware that in the long run this situation does not benefit the Honduran people.

From the viewpoint of its economic development, Honduras wants to keep 3 million Nicaraguans as customers for its industry. Honduras wants the 3 million Nicaraguans to continue as a market for its (?surplus) agricultural products and for us to become a market for its hydroelectrical production. However, if Honduras, under false pretexts, induces us to a break [in relations] to go to war, and so on, we are not going to be a market for its industry, its agricultural surplus, its hydroelectrical production, or anything. Honduras has nothing to gain if a SAHSA [Honduran Air Service, Inc] flight, its airline company, is suspended, and loses Nicaragua's passenger market. The United States is not going to open its market. Even if it did, I seriously doubt that SAHSA can compete with Airways [as heard] and all of the other U.S. airline companies. Where are Honduran interests? In Central America, in those countries that have the same level of harmonious and overall development and which need to complement their economies. That viewpoint is the same one we are advancing. If we want to promote geothermal and industrial development, and if we want to reduce the costs of cargo through the use of an interregional railroad and the like, we must do that taking into consideration the other regional countries. We must not only act from the standpoint of economic reciprocity, but also from the standpoint of the resources we now have. Nicaragua would not be able to build a train to pass through Central America because it lacks the money. No other area country can, either, but perhaps together we could. We could unite the Port of Limon in Costa Rica and the Port of Corinto in Nicaragua via a railway service through a dry canal and thus reduce costs. However, this must be a joint enterprise.

Integration depends on us. This is reflected in the fact that when the United States had a tighter grip on the area it encouraged the creation of the Central American Common Market in the area. At that time, they came here to install already obsolete machinery and to employ our cheap labor force. They were interested in a united market. By contrast, they are now interested in dividing us in order to be able to dominate us easier. That is the situation.

[Reporter] I understand that the EEC is requesting the creation of blocs at the Central American level to deal with the EEC. Does Nicaragua agree with this? What are the advantages and disadvantages posed by this within the current political framework and the war aggression?

[Arce] We fully agree with the EEC idea. In fact, even before this came up, as part of our international efforts we always stressed to European countries the need to help Central America to overcome underdevelopment as a whole. Although we have sought direct bilateral cooperation for Nicaragua, our negotiations never neglected cooperation for the area. What is the positive aspect of this? Historically speaking, we think that the problem of our neighboring brother countries is that their eyes have only been fixed on the United States. We respect that; we do not think badly of it. However, the problem is that the United States alone does not make up the entire world. That has led those countries to a level of dependence reflected in the current situation. If Europe grants technological, technical, economic, and financial assistance to Central America, our neighboring brother countries would realize that it is necessary to be friends with the United States; we ourselves are not against being friends with that country. However, it is one thing to maintain a friendship, and another to be politically dependent and subjected to slavery. [end recording]

Part II

PA230042 Mangua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Part II of interview with Commander Bayardo Arce by unidentified "Radio Information" newscast reporter; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Can you explain what the FSLN means by eradication of any type of exploitation of man by man?

[Arce] Precisely, I return to the issue of understanding concepts, both from the (?economic) and political viewpoints. These groups that claim they are leftist have assimilated the revolution from an ideological point of view which takes them to dogmatic and mechanist positions. That explains how a party here that calls itself communist is advocating a republican regime in the proposed constitution in order to protect businessmen here. Then, I wonder: What is wrong with them? How can they ask for a republican regime if they are communists? They are proposing a legislative power, which is what the businessmen are proposing. How can I explain that? From a political viewpoint. [sentence as heard] Our proposal is to eradicate the exploitation of man by man. Our country's historical reality has taught us that there has been an exploitation by capitalism. We are seeking mechanisms whereby capitalism will be at the service of man, at the service of the well-being of man. We have nothing against an efficient businessman who will place his capital at the service of all society through a just wage scale and a just tax policy. But we are against a businessman who follows caveman principles and thinks conditions should be best only for his enrichment, even if his workers or any other sector of the people are starving to death. That is the political expression of that term.

[Reporter] Some opposition political parties said that when the FSLN presented its stand before the assembly it forgot to include elements of the economic crisis, the war of aggression, crisis, and other elements. What are your comments on this?

[Arce] I think this is a whimsical statement. Quite the contrary, we have been explaining how we are fulfilling our original program and our overall political concept, which is the one we are planning to include in the constitution. We point out how our program has been changed according to the military aggression and the international economic situation, which is affecting us as a Third World country. In other words, to say that we do not speak about the economic crisis or the war is equivalent to saying that we are insane. We are constantly telling our people and the world that everything that is happening in Nicaragua is affected in one way or another by the imperialist aggression and the great crisis affecting the Third World countries.

[Reporter] To conclude, Commander Bayardo Arce made a brief critical balance of the revolutionary work done by the FSLN during the last 6 years and the achievements of the revolution.

[Arce] When we celebrated the 6th anniversary of the revolution, we pointed out at that time, and we ratify it when we present our stand on the new constitution of the Republic, that during the 6 years of revolutionary work we have been fulfilling the program of the Sandinist front, the original program that was prepared from the very beginning of the front and which became public knowledge in 1979. It was later presented as a government platform when we began the rebellion. We planned our path of action according to the specific conditions of the country, its socioeconomic development, the organization of our people, and we have advanced in that sense.

The essential elements of our program have primarily been to return the dignity and identity of our people as expressed in their direct participation in the revolutionary tasks. Never before have our people had more freedom than today to organize themselves into labor unions and political organizations, and to fully express themselves in various positions in the government and legislature and in their own mass or labor organizations. As part of this return of dignity, we carried out a national crusade to fight illiteracy, we provided free education to all Nicaraguans, we increased our country's school population by 100 percent, and so forth. Undoubtedly, this process has not been easy. We must take into consideration the fact that for almost 4 years we have been facing the war of aggression unleashed by the U.S. Government. That aggression has entailed political, economic, military, and diplomatic actions that have affected the program of the revolution.

[Reporter] Commander Borge recently said that many of the mistakes made in these 6 years of revolution are due to poor management in the national leadership. Would you comment on these statements?

[Arce] In a political-revolutionary sense, we must give it that connotation. For historical reasons and inspired by the confidence of our people, we engaged in a long and bloody battle in which we risked our lives to this organization, which is the vanguard of our people. After 6 years of revolution,we continue to enjoy the trust of the majority of our people, and we know how to lead the revolution on the best course. If there have been any mistakes, which in fact there have been; if there have been faults, which in fact there have been; if there have been difficulties that we have been unable to foresee, which in effect there have been; then logically, we, the members of the National Directorate, have to assume the responsibility. That, of course, does not take away the sense of responsibility each and every Nicaraguan must have to this revolution which is not ours, but belongs to all of our people. In this concept, we could not go as far as forecasting that if while I am holding this interview a worker is breaking a piece of machinery out of carelessness and it will cost us U.S. dollars to buy the spare part, then this is the fault of the National Directorate. However, in overall terms, we do accept the responsibility for the success, failures, and problems of the revolution.

OFFICIAL MISSION LEAVES FOR MEXICO WITH RELIEF

PA231856 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1750 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Early today the Nicaraguan official delegation headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco left for Mexico to establish the cooperation mechanisms required by the Mexican people, who are enduring hardships resulting from two quakes. The mission headed by Tinoco is also made up of 18 health workers; Red Cross President Gonzalo Ramirez; CEPAD [Evangelical Committee for Development] executive Gustavo Parajon [words indistinct].

President Daniel Ortega Saavedra and Commander of the Revolution Henry Ruiz Hernandez, minister of foreign cooperation, went to the airport to see off the retinue, which left abroad an Aeronica [Nicaraguan Airlines] plane. In brief statements to newsmen, Commander Ortega said that in sending this medical brigade and 400 bottles of plasma Nicaragua is giving all it can, even its own blood, to the fraternal Mexican people. For his part, Deputy Foreign Minister Tinoco asserted that the health brigade, which is made up of 12 doctors, 2 paramedics, and 4 nurses, will stay in the brotherly Aztec country as long as required. He said that his colleague Ricardo Valero will be at the airport in Mexico City to welcome them.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MISSION LEAVES FOR CUBA

PA222241 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] A National Assembly mission left today for Cuba, where they will analyze the constitutional experience of that brother Caribbean country. The parliamentary delegation is led by Sandinist Deputy Humberto Solis Barker, Eduardo Molina Palacios of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua [PCDN], (Alfredo Rodriguez) of the Popular Social Christian Party [PPSC], and (Carlos Lucas) of the Marxist-Leninist Popular Action Party [MAP-ML]. The Nicaraguan parliamentary members will remain in Cuba for 8 days, where they will establish contacts with deputies of the National Assembly of the People's Government. Upon concluding the visit, they will go to Mexico on a similar mission.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS CONTROL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

PA220326 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Nicaragua has been chosen to assume the vice presidency of the committee [not further identified] that will draft the third conference against nuclear weapons.

The role of the post to be assumed by Nicaragua will be to examine the treaty concerning the internal nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, it was announced by the Foreign Ministry today. This post, which represents an honor for the country, was proposed by the nonaligned countries' group.

ROBELO COMMENTS ON CENTRAL AMERICAN SITUATION

AP240125 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] Alfonso Robelo, one of the Nicaraguan Opposition Unity leaders, told Televisora Nacional today that the situation in Central America will have worldwide repercussions and that communist expansionism in the area must be halted.

[Begin Robelo recording] There is no doubt that Central America is going through a period of great upheaval. I believe that, strangely, this small country -- this small Central American country divided into five pieces -- and Panama, and in general the Caribbean area, is in a situation similar to that of the Balkans at the end of World War II. A great deal of the world's future will depend on what happens in the Caribbean and what happens in Central America. It seems unbelievable that such an earth-shaking role is to be played by such small countries, but our geographical position and the fact that the area has become an East-West confrontation zone makes us believe that this will be farreaching. I would go as far as to say, to be even more specific, that the fate of Central America, and to a great degree the fate of the Caribbean, depends on what happens in Nicaragua.

If peace and democracy are achieved in Nicaragua, there will be peace and stability in the Caribbean and Central American area. Otherwise, this will be a strife-torn area for many years because, as we all know, Marxist-Leninism is not only totalitarian but expansionist, and the communist cancer -- and this is not said to instill fear -- will spread throughout the area and will bring with it instability, anxiety, and violence. [end recording]

LATE REPORT: SHULTZ 'ACCUSATIONS' AT UN REJECTED

PA241321 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] It is reported from the United Nations that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz today again hoisted the flag of anticommunism and of attacks against the Sandinist revolution. In a speech before the 40th United Nations General Assembly, he said in a demagogic manner that this country supports the peacemaking efforts of the Contadora Group. The Shultz speech, which normally outlines White House policy, had an anti-communist tone.

Nicaragua rejected the slanderous accusations of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz before the United Nations. Shultz accused Nicaragua of being the aggressor in Central America, and voiced conditions for achieving peace in the area in an effort to boycott the efforts of the Contadora Group.

Nicaraguan Ambassador Javier Chamorro Mora, chosen to head the fourth committee to the assembly, pointed out that through its representatives the United States is trying to hide the dirty war which Reagan has been promoting against Nicaragua since 1981. Chamorro reminded the head of U.S. diplomacy that the terrorist policy of his government is being challenged at present at the International Court of Justice at The Hague, and that Reagan has ignored international law.

MEXICAN AMBASSADOR ON CASTRO'S COMMENTS ON DEBT

FL202039 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] The National Television News has interviewed the Mexican ambassador to our country and asked him about our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro's remarks on the cancellation of foreign debt payments.

[Begin recording] Of course, we have taken into account his comments. We do not know if these wishes can become a reality. The important thing is that this has been said by an authoritative voice, as the Cuban people's leader is, because we know it is the feeling of all Cubans and certainly, it will have the solidarity of many other countries. We do not know what can happen in reality. The fact is that it has been stated, that Mexico is grateful for it, and considering the circumstances we will acknowledge it. It will be helpful as soon as the remarks are acknowledged, that they touch the feelings of creditors, and not only the feelings of an entire country which is supportive.

I repeat that the aid offers made by the commander move us and we appreciate them greatly. [end recording]

CASTRO VISITS MEXICAN EMBASSY AFTER EARTHQUAKE

FL202152 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Last night, Cuban President Fidel Castro visited the Mexican Embassy in Havana and expressed the Cuban people's sorrow for the victims of the earthquake, which destroyed a large portion of several Mexican cities last Thursday.

After the closing ceremony of the Latin American Press Forum on the Regional Financial Crisis, Fidel went to the Mexican Embassy, where he spoke with Ambassador Enrique Olivares Santana and other diplomatic officials.

MEDICAL BRIGADE HELP OFFERED TO MEXICO

FL202223 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1806 GMT 20 Sep 85

[By Delia Rodriguez]

[Text] A specialist brigade from the Calixto Garcia General Teaching Hospital is ready to go to Mexico, where it will offer assistance to that brother country, Dr Arnaldo Torrientes, the hospital director, has reported to Radio Reloj.

He said the group is composed of clinicians, surgeons, burn specialists, neurosurgeons, and nurses, who -- just as they did after Peru's earthquake 15 years ago -- expressed their willingness to help the victims of the greatest earthquake the brother Mexican people have experienced.

At the Calixto Garcia Hospital, a blood donation drive is being considered. Its workers, worthy representatives of the health sector, expressed their willingness to donate the necessary amount. Dr Torrientes said: We are proud of our staff who, following Fidel's teachings, are true internationalists.

Del Valle in Mexico, Reiterates Offer

FL231251 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Mexico City -- Cuban Public Health Minister Sergio del Valle Jimenez yesterday made an extensive tour through Mexico City's most damaged areas caused by last Thursday and Friday's earthquakes. One has to see the entire disaster area to understand the magnitude of the tragedy the Mexican people are going through, Sergio del Valle said as he looked at the devastation caused by the earthquake at a four building complex in the Roma district.

The Cuban public health minister reiterated that Cuba wants to help their Mexican brothers and that four medical brigades are ready to travel to Mexico at the time that country's authorities need them and request them. Sergio del Valle arrived in Mexico yesterday morning to board the plane which transported almost 13,000 tons of plasma, medicines, antibiotics, anti-diarrhetic medication, vaccines against typhoid and tetanus, as well as emergency medical equipment. Del Valle met with the Mexican health minister, who thanked him for Cuba's assistance and Cuba's public health minister's visit.

MALMIERCA TO DISCUSS DEBT, SOUTH AFRICA AT UN

FL232010 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca left this morning for the United States to participate in the 40th UN General Assembly. Nelson Notario Castro interviewed Malmierca at the Jose Marti International Airport minutes before his departure.

[Begin recording] [Notario Castro] Minister, will you discuss the topic of the foreign debt at the UN General Assembly meeting in the United States?

[Malmierca] Yes, among the topics to be mentioned in our speech at the UN General Assembly will be our evaluation of the current international economic situation characterized by the exaggerated, insupportable, unsustainable weight of the foreign debt on developing countries and our opinion that this situation should be modified. It should be jointly confronted by the debtor and creditor countries in order to abolish the debt. In addition, we will also say that this will be an initial step in the process to achieve a new international economic order that would allow us to create the conditions to advance down the road of development.

[Notario Castro] Will your speech at the UN General Assembly also mention South Africa, and the most recent South African aggression against Angola?

[Malmierca] Yes, in our speech we will express, as the Cuban speeches given at the General Assembly have always done, our solidarity with the South African black peoples' struggle against the apartheid regime and our solidarity with Namibia's struggle for independence and with the front-line countries that have experienced and are experiencing continued aggression from Pretoria's racist regime. Now, naturally, we will mention the last aggression, the new violation of Angolan territory, and sovereignty committed by the South African racists as an example of their alliance to the UNITA counterrevolutionary bands. [end recording]

JARUZELSKI, CASTRO TOUR CIENFUEGOS PROVINCE

LD231510 Warsaw PAP in English 1415 GMT 23 Sep 85

[By PAP special correspondents]

[Text] Havana, Sept. 23 -- On the third day of his official visit of friendship to Cuba, the PUWP CC First Secretary, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, General Wojciech Jaruzelski was taken on a tour of the Cienfuegos Province. He arrived there by special Cuban Airlines plane. The Polish delegation was accompanied by the Cuban leader, Fidel Castro and several members of top-level leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba.

The Cienfuegos Province, with a population of 320 thousand, spreads along the southern coast of Cuba. Its inhabitants have bid the Polish leader an unusually sincere and enthusiastic welcome. Crowds of tens of thousands people gathered at the airport and along the route of Polish motorcade. The welcome ceremony turned into a popular festival, with bands playing and folk ensembles dancing.

The guests were greeted at the airport by the representatives of local authorities, headed by the CPC Provincial Committee First Secretary Humberto Miguel Fernandes. Wojciech Jaruzelski approached the spontaneously cheering crowd to shake hands with some of those gathered.

The route of Polish motorcade passed through the city of Cienfuegos to a sugar transfer station, where the hosts briefed the Polish delegation on the operation of various appliances. Next, the Polish delegation was taken on a tour of a petroleum refinery construction site.

General Jaruzelski showed great interest in the problems associated with the construction of this sophisticated project, and inquired on the plant's amortization period and work conditions. Fidel Castro also approached the plant staff and management, concentrating mainly on the issues of social conditions, working and protective clothing supply and the resting facilities provided for the staff.

The Polish and Cuban leaders and the personalities accompanying them were later taken on a tour of a construction site of the first Cuban nuclear power plant. Also at this project's site both leaders have talked with their hosts, the representatives of construction site management. At the close of the tour, General Wojciech Jaruzelski signed a visitors' book laid out at the plant.

The Cuban press still devotes much attention to the Polish leader's visit and the Polish-related affairs. Dailies printed General Jaruzelski's biography, his portrait and numerous articles bringing the image of Poland closer to Cubans. A CPC CC daily GRANMA carried an extensive article on Cuba's national hero of Polish origin, General Karol Roloff-Mialowski. It has also published a large article headlined "Polish Presence in Cuban Culture".

Jaruzelski Hosts Reception

LD240902 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0500 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Excerpts] The delegation which includes Wojciech Jaruzelski is continuing its visit to Cuba. Yesterday evening, Cuban time, Wojciech Jaruzelski held a reception in honor of Fidel Castro. It was attended by representatives of the Cuban supreme party and state authorities, the diplomatic corps and also journalists covering the visit.

General Jaruzelski will today visit the chemical troops officer cadet college, named after Carlos Roloff Mialowski. Later today, documents concerning economic cooperation between both states will be signed.

HAVANA RADIO COMMENTS ON RECENT U.S. SPACE TESTS

PA222331 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Sep 85

["World Events" commentary by Valentin Gonzalez]

[Text] With the most absolute disdain for international public opinion and ignoring all the reasons not to continue with his plans for militarizing outer space set forth by the USSR, President Ronald Reagan last Friday ordered the launching of a U.S. anti-satellite missile against an actual target in outer space. He hypocritically claimed that this test will be an incentive for the USSR to reach an agreement for banning this type of weapon.

The U.S. President is really seeking to impress both public opinion and the USSR and create a better image in November when he meets with top Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Geneva. However, this strange idea will not materialize, as has been the case with all the plans to intimidate the USSR into accepting unilateral disarmament or U.S. military supremacy.

If what the White House resident seeks is to go to the planned summit with a favorable image, he will not achieve his goal. On the contrary, this very dangerous step toward the outer space militarization greatly contributes to the possibility that the Gorbachev-Reagan meeting will fail, or perhaps not even be held. The top Soviet leader has already told the United States that its plans to militarize outer space might endanger the present reduction and disarmament talks being held in Geneva.

Concerning the planned meeting with President Ronald Reagan, Gorbachev told Japanese socialist leader Masaki Ishibashi, who is visiting Moscow, that the Soviet side will do everything possible to obtain positive results from that meeting. However, Gorbachev warned that unfortunately U.S. official circles are doing the contrary, which endangers the holding of such talks.

In statements to the Soviet news agency TASS, the secretary general of the CPSU said that the United States is waging a campaign of hatred against the USSR while it launches new and more dangerous actions in the arms race at the same time.

In this respect, Gorbachev specified that the outer space militarization increases the threat of war even further. On the eve of the beginning of a third round of disarmament negotiations between the USSR and the United States, the attitude of the U.S. leaders is far from constructive. In this regard, the chief of the Soviet delegation to the Geneva talks, Viktor Karpov, said that unfortunately the U.S. stand has not allowed for progress in the tasks that had been assigned: achieving mutually acceptable agreements for preventing an arms race in outer space and putting an end to the current arms race in the world.

Precisely, the first two rounds of talks, which each took 6 weeks, did not have the slightest results due to the U.S. stubborn attitude of not abandoning its planned program to militarize space and obtain advantages in nuclear armaments. On this third occasion, Washington has the possibility of adopting an attitude more in line with reality and a more sensible position in the negotiations. Only in that manner will a more equal and just agreement be reached, or at least they will make more progress in the talks and lay the foundation for the meeting between the top leaders of the USSR and the United States to be held on 19 and 20 November.

U.S. ROLE IN HONDURAS-NICARAGUA TENSION VIEWED

PA230254 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 20 Sep 85

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The recent worsening of the tension on the Nicaraguan-Honduran border is new evidence of what happens when a leader forgets his principles and converts his nation into an instrument of a foreign power. As is well known, last Friday, U.S.-made planes owned by the Honduran Air Force attacked Nicaraguan territory to support the infiltration of 800 counterrevolutionaries by land. This attack was repelled by the Sandinist People's Army. Evryone knows that the United States is behind this new action. President Roberto Suazo Cordova has given sufficient evidence of being fully in agreement with having his country become a springboard for all kinds of aggression and provocations against Nicaragua.

This unprincipled president has allowed the U.S. Government to determine the destiny of his country. Furthermore, with utmost political blindness, he has even asked to have his country become a protectorate or an associated state of the United States, as is Puerto Rico.

Honduran legislator Jorge Arturo Reina said a few months ago that the Pentagon's frequent exercises in Honduras, designed to make Honduras a platform for aggression against Nicaragua, are well known. The Liberal Party deputy added that the U.S. Government is also eager to convert Honduras into a base to watch over the Salvadoran regime's rearguard. Finally, Jorge Arturo Reina said that Honduras has been converted into a counterrevolutionary base. Unfortunately, that is the most accurate definition given so far of that poor Central American nation.

If the dramatic situation in which the majority of Hondurans live is analyzed, the attitude of President Suazo Cordova is seen to be outrageous. He persists in subordinating his country more and more to U.S. interests in the area.

According to information from ECLA, 70 percent of Hondurans live in absolute poverty, eating only tortillas, rice, and beans, and living in huts with no running water, sanitary facilities, or electricity. The infant mortality rate due to malnutrition, medical care, and hygiene is 60 babies out of every thousand. Unemployment affects more than 66 percent of the economically active population, while illiteracy is 47 percent at the national level, and 80 percent in rural areas. If the $227 million allocated by the U.S. Congress to Honduras this year in economic and military aid were used for social works, the terrible situation described here could be relieved somewhat. However, for the Honduran Government, the starving and unemployed can continue to wait, or perhaps, in the best of cases, die, while the dollars are used for joint military maneuvers, aggression, and the training of mercenaries.

After the recent border incident, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega invited Suazo Cordova to hold a meeting to analyze the situation and to try to alleviate it. He also proposed the establishment of a joint vigilance corps to patrol the border area to prevent further conflicts. So far, the Honduran regime has not answered these Nicaraguan proposals. In a news conference on 16 September, Daniel Ortega reiterated that the situation on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border was caused by the policies of the United States, which wants a confrontation between Honduras and Nicaragua in order to intervene directly with its troops. Ortega stated that the U.S. strategy is to eliminate the Nicaraguan revolution. He emphasized that now the Honduran president has the opportunity to demonstrate that he is not a U.S. puppet and to struggle for peace, which is his duty to his people.

POLICE RAID TWO AIRCRAFT, SEIZE COCAINE

FL231715 Bridgetown CANA in English 1914 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, Sep 22, CANA-REUTER -- Domminican police raided two aircraft which touched down en route to the United States from Colombia and seized cocaine worth 55 million dollars, President Salvador Jorge Blanco said. He said police, with U.S. agent's help, had cracked an international drug ring involving members of the Dominican armed forces and had seized 650 kilos (1,400 pounds) of cocaine.

In a statement, the president said several people had been arrested. He gave no details of when the raids were made. The drug ring involved members of the Dominican Republic armed forces, local and U.S. citizens, and Colombians, he said.

COMMUNIST PARTY REFUTES PRESIDENCY COMMENTS

FL211550 Santo Domingo Cadena Brea Pena in Spanish 0930 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] The Dominican Communist Party has rejected statements from the Presidency Secretariat saying the current government does not have blood on its hands. The organization refuted (Freddie Camps) statement that it is impossible to hold the Secretariat responsible for the more than 100 dead resulting from the violence of 23--25 April 1984. The Communist Party rejected (Camps') statements that the current government does not have blood on its hands because the material and intellectual authors of the collective crime have not been put on trial by the government. The leftist organization reiterated that several hands and incidents in the current government are stained with blood. The Communist Party also stressed the fact that the military involved in those acts were congratulated by the government [words indistinct].

TWELVE KILLED BY FLOODS, DOZENS EVACUATED

FL190232 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 18 Sep 85

[Text] Reports from the Dominican Republic say flooding killed at least 12 people and forced the evacuation of hundreds of families in shanty towns east of Santo Domingo last weekend. Five victims were crushed by landslides, five drowned, and one was struck by lightning during and after storms last Friday and Saturday. A twelfth victim was electrocuted when he touched an electrical wire.

Relief organizations evacuated dozens of families and Air Force helicopters ferried flood, clothing and medicine to about 895 people stranded by the downpours, the worst in the Dominican Republic since 1979.